June 25th—July 1st, 1987, No. 26 75¢

THE Fisherman

LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION

PLUG CASTING

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SHARKING

W-TO

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ADLY

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THE

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★★★

ORTH SHORE BLUES

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THE Fisherman

LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION

Volume 22, Number 26 June 25th, 1987

FEATURES:

PLUGGING AROUND THE BACK BAYS
by Fred Golofaro 28

TIPS FOR SHARKS
by Pete Barrett 30

THE VERSATILITY OF A DIAMOND
by Russ Wilson 32

RETURN OF THE KINGFISH
by William A. Muller 36

TACKLING NORTH SHORE BLUES
by Brian Mulholland 38

FANCY SPINNERBAITS
by Carl Buxbaum 41

THINK DEEP WITH DOWNRIGGERS
by Dick Mermon 44

FILLET A FLATFISH
by Russ Wilson 46

CATSKILLS TROUT
by Dick Alley 50

RECORD BREAKERS
by Fred Guardineer 52

BETTER FLUKING
Part One by Matt Ahern 53

DEPARTMENTS:

PASS IT ON 4
NEW PRODUCTS 14
PRODUCT REVIEW 20
CAPTAIN'S TABLE 22
THE TACKLE DOCTOR 24
DOCK LINES 26
FISHING REPORTS 56
TIDE & SOLUNAR TABLES 87

ABOUT THE COVER:

Fluke are suddenly catching the attention of many Long Island anglers and the timing is just right for the annual Fisherman sponsored Fluke Derby slated for this coming weekend. There is still time to register and be eligible for the $500. first prize if you hurry. See page 35 for more details. Photo by Tom Hastings.

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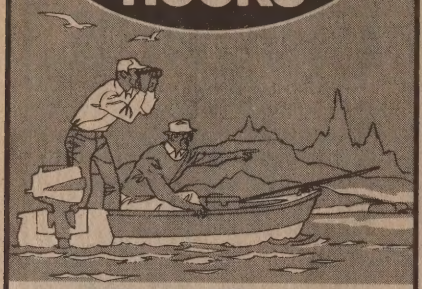

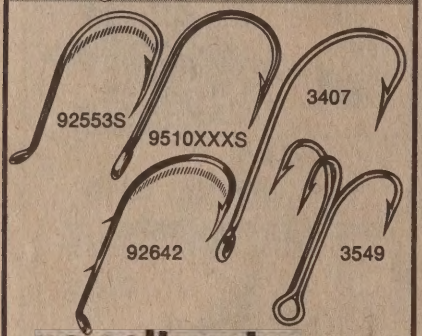

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FLOTILLA 13-2 OFFERING YOUNG BOATERS COURSE

A free, 5-lesson New York State Course for young boaters, ages 10 to 16, will be sponsored by Flotilla 13-2, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. Classes will begin at 7PM on Monday, June 22nd at the Massapequa Public Library, Bar Harbor Branch, 40 Harbor Lane, Massapequa. Dates for the 2-hour course are June 24th, 26th, 29th and July 1st.

Successful completion of this course and final exam will give the boy or girl a New York State license which is mandatory for operating a power boat.

For further information, call 799-0770.

ATLANTIS ANGLERS 11TH ANNUAL WEAKFISH TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Nine clubs participated with over 300 fishing persons. Fish were scarce, but quality was good. First place club award taken by Surfside 3. Three fish with total weight of 35 lbs. 14 oz. Second place club, Bay Shore Tuna, three fish with total weight 29 lbs. 5½ oz. Third place club, Squaw Island, total weight 7 lbs. 5 oz.

First place largest individual fish award was taken by Bob Layer of Surfside 3 with a fish weighing 13 lbs. 13 oz. Second place was Jim Kavanah with 12 lbs. 8 oz. Third place Dick Bohner, 10 lbs. 2½ oz. In all, 20 prices were awarded.

The Atlantis Anglers would like to thank all those who participated.

BOATING CLASSES FOR BROOKLYN AND QUEENS

Division XI, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, is offering the famous Coast Guard Auxiliary Boating Skills and Seamanship Course. Certificates will be awarded for successful completion of subjects: boat handling, legal requirements, rules of the road, aid to navigation, boaters language, marlinspike (lines and knots), piloting, sailing, marine engines, weather, radio telephone, locks and dams.

The finest trainers in our nine Flotillas will be used as instructors and proctors. Field trips and special audio/visual aids, produced by Division XI, will be used to the maximum for the benefit of all students. Family and group enrollments are encouraged; enroll yourself and your boating or fishing buddies. Males and females, over the age of 16, are urged to participate.

The better trained boater means a safer boating season. Help us to help you. Enroll now! Preregistration is strongly suggested. Enrollment is limited.

For immediate registration and information, contact: USCG Auxiliary, Division XI Captain Gus Savaros, (718) 339-1903. Classes and registration start Monday evening, 7:30PM, at the Knights of Columbus, #1073, Main Hall, 3000 Emmons Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11235. Classes will continue each Monday evening until the program is complete.

TEN PROJECTS UNDER UDC'S AQUACULTURE INNOVATION PROGRAM

Vincent Tese, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the New York State Urban Development Corporation (UDC) announced today the completion of 10 demonstration projects under UCD's Aquaculture Innovation Program.

The 10 projects were funded with $420,000 transferred to UDC from the State Department of Agriculture and Markets. These funds were part of a $1 million appropriation earmarked for aquaculture development in New York State.

Aquaculture involves the control and management of the life cycle and environment of s hellfish, finfish, or other aquatic species in order to enhance production levels. The 10 demonstration projects were designed to make use of innovative technologies, processes and products needed to reduce costs, improve growth and survival rates and ensure quantity, quality, and diversity of species raised through aquaculture.

"These projects have generated some interesting and useful results," Vincent Tese said. "The completion of the projects is an important step forward in our effort to permanently strengthen Long Island's economy related to marine resources. We hope to accelerate the commercial application of the innovations tested, through workshops we will be conducting and through the active dissemination of this valuable information to the public."

To bring this new information to the scientific, academic and business community including active and potential aquaculturists, workshops will be held in cooperation with the Cornell Cooperative Extension-Suffolk County Marine Program on June 26th and 27th. The workshops will be held at Suffolk County Community College, Eastern Campus, Shinnecock Building, Riverhead.

In addition to the 10 demonstration project reports, UDC will be releasing, at the workshops, a manual produced to describe small scale farming of hard clams. The manual, written by Steve Malinowski of the Clam Farm, Inc., Fishers Island, New York, was funded by a $40,000 UDC consultant contract.

The final demonstration project reports and manual will be available,

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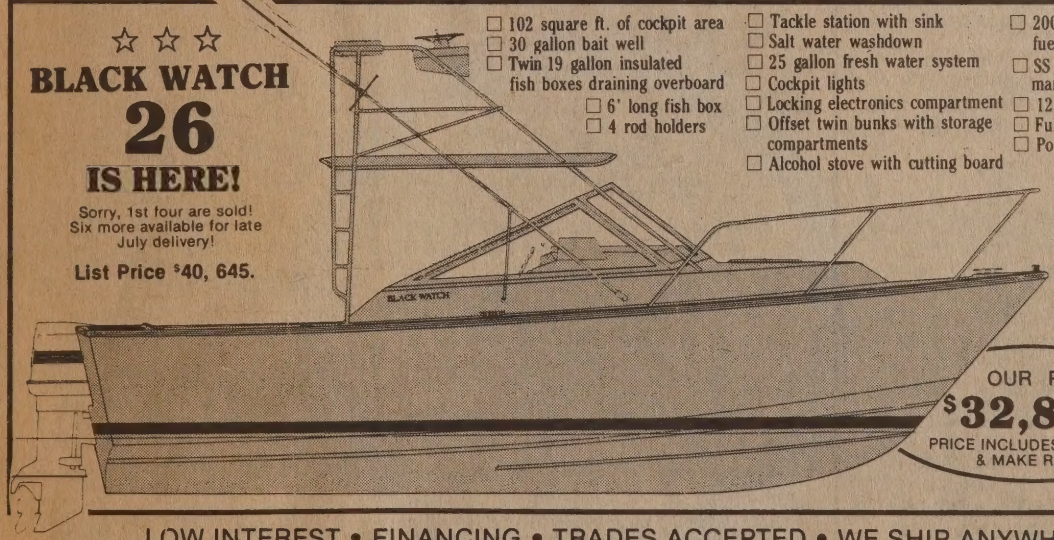

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upon request, from UDC's Aquaculture Innovation Program, 1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036; (212) 930-0193.

SOUTH NASSAU COMMUNITIES HOSPITAL FISHING TOURNEY

The Second Annual Fishing Tournament to benefit South Nassau Communities Hospita will be held on Saturday, July 11th. It's sponsored by the Five Towns Council to South Nassau Communities Hospital. The Tournament's Co-Chairmen anticipate last year's 128 boat entries will be surpassed.

The Fishing Tournament's starting point will be either at the Hudson Point Fishing Station in Freeport, Reynolds Reef in Atlantic Beach, or the Bay Park Fishing Station in Oceanside. The entry fee of $50 per boat is tax deductible. The rain date will be sunday, July 12th. Prizes will be awarded in all categories which include fluke, bluefish, shark and tuna.

For further information and entry forms, please call South Nassau Community Relations at (516) 763-3919; Fishing Tournament Chairman Rich Collins, (212) 929-6641/6132; Fishing Tournament Co-Chairman John Feeney, (212) 221-3425 or Five Towns Council President Mike Schamroth, (212)918-0500 days; or (516- 5698-3674 evenings.

TOWN OF OYSTER BAY SPONSORS SECOND ANNUAL BLUEFISH TOURNAMENT

The Town of Oyster Bay will sponsor the second Annual Bluefish Tournament on Sunday, September 13th, according to Town Councilman Angelo A. Delligatti.

"The bluefish tournament is open to residents of all ages who are interested in a chance to compete," Delligatti said. "Prizes will be awarded in the form of gift certificates which can be redeemed at Oyster Bay Marine Supply, the event's co-sponsor."

The first place prize is a $2,000 gift certificate for the biggest catch; second prize is $1,000; third prize is $500 and fourth through tenth place winners receive $100 each. The winners will also receive plaques at the awards ceremony and 'tail gate' party which will begin at 5:30PM. "Everyone who enters will be given a commemorative T-shirt," Delligatti added.

The cost to enter the tournament will be $5 per fisherman. Boats will leave Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Park beginning at 5AM and must return no later than 5PM. Additional rules for the contest are contained in the registration form which is available at all Town of Oyster Bay Parks, Town Hall South, 977 Hicksville Road, Massapequa and Oyster Bay Marine Supply, 47 West Main Stree,t Oyster Bay. Forms must be returned no later than Friday, August 28th.

"For those experienced fishermen or those who think they might have

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To get you on your way in a hurry, they're also equipped with CD ignition and a fuel enrichment system for quick starting.

We even offer an extended product protection plan to make sure they live up to our expectations, and yours. And with our exclusive MMAC financing option, MMAC we make it easier to own a Mariner-powered boat than ever before.

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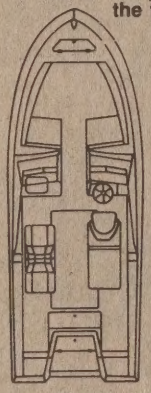

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— NEW JERSEY —
Lake Hopatcong 201-398-5495

'beginner's luck' this will be the opportunity to try your hand and, possibly, come away with the big catch of the day," Delligatti concluded.

MONTAUK CAPTAINS ASSOC. CHARITY SHARK TOURNEY

The 8th Annual Montauk Captains Association Charity Shark Tournament will take place July 11th and 12th at Captains Cove Marina, Montauk, New York. As usual alll the monies collected will go towards expenses, awards and various charities. The MCA doesn't make any money from this event.

Major tackle manufacturers will donate prizes to the tournament in order to make participation even more attractive.

The tournament is open to all shark fishermen interested in taking part in the competition.

As usual, the "kill" will be reduced to a minimum and tag and release will be the priority of the tournament. Jack Casey and Wes Pratt from Woods Hole will conduct their biological research on the fish brought to the dock.

The tournament this year will be sponsored by Edelman's Tackle, Claire Rose distributors and Berkley Line Co., all of whom have been very supportive in the past.

This is a fun weekend with substantial prizes to create interest: $3000, $2000 and $1000 to the three largest sharks and donated prizes to other contenders.

The Community of Montauk greatly appreciates the donations of thousands of dollars in scholarship funds, Cancer Society donations, etc.

If you are interested in either a charter boat or an application form for your own boat, write or call: Montauk Captain Association, c/o Captains Cove Marina, 157 West Lake Drive, Attention: Capt. Joe McBride, President, or call (516) 668-5995 for information or applications.

BABYLON TUNA CLUB INVITATIONAL SET FOR JULY

That's the 31st Invitational Tuna, Shark and Billfish Tournament sponsored by the Babylon Tuna Club (BTC) with **all** proceeds from the sale of fish donated to the association for the Help of Retarded Children (AHRC).

This year's entry fee is $250 for the day category boats and $600 for the overnight category boats.

Overnight boats will fish Friday and Saturday, July 24th and 25th and the day boats will fish Saturday, July 25th and then go out again on Sunday, July 26th. The $250 day entry fee is the total fee for both days of fishing.

A combined captain's meeting will be held Thursday evening, July 23rd at the Babylon Town Dock where rules will be explained and patches and free gifts will be distributed to participating boats.

Total money awards is expected to be over $25,000 and will be based on the number of boats participating in each category.

So if you enjoy this type of fishing and would like to help some deserving children at the same time why not join us on July 24th and 25th (overnight boats) or July 25th and 26th (day boats).

Entries can be made by contacting the tournament chairman, Mr. Wolf Hager, (516) 661-5593, or write to him at Babylon Tuna Club, P.O. Box 123, Babylon, NY 11702.

If you just want to buy some fish and see some of the best offshore fishing machines around, come join us that Saturday or Sunday, or both days.

Anyone wish to send a donation can do so by mailing it to the BTC at the above address. An added note of interest is that for every dollar we raise for the AHRC, various government funding multiplies that amount 9 times. Last year we donated over $10,000 which meant that the AHRC earned $100,000. That's not bad, but with your help we can do better.

ANGLERS ESTABLISH 619 NEW RECORDS IN 1986

World Game Fish Records approved by the International Game Fish Association in 1986 totaled 619, marking the fifth straight year that more than 600 records have been granted by IGFA.

Applications approved included 97 new all-tackle records (the heaviest catch of a species), 263 saltwater line class records, 193 freshwater line class records and 121 new fly rod records (78 for freshwater species and 43 for marine fish).

IGFA processed 948 record applications during the year. The continued high number of record claims by anglers throughout the world is attributed to their awareness of the many existing record opportunities, IGFA President E.K. Harry said. Furthermore, a tremendous increase in newspaper and television coverage of world record catches has been noted. Pictures and stories about anglers have gained a fair share of space on the sports pages and in newscasts.

Largest all-time fish records were set in faraway places and remote areas ranging from the snow-capped mountain streams of Alaska to the warm South Pacific waters of New Zealand. The all-tackle mark for that old favorite, the Dolly Varden, fell twice. In July, Kenneth Alt caught a 10 lb. Dolly Varden in the Noatak River, Alaska, and a month later Ronald Reeves, Jr., raised the record to 10 lbs. 2 oz. with his catch in the Kenai River, Alaska. A 4-year-old striped marlin record was bettered by more than 50 lbs. as Bruce Jenkinson weighed in one at 455 lbs. 4 oz. on January 16 at Mayor Island, New Zealand.

Once again, light tackle enthusiasts dominated freshwater line class categories. Of the 193 new world records established by freshwater

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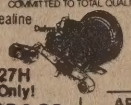

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PRIME 6 LB. - 17 LB. *Reg. $7.99 - $9.99*
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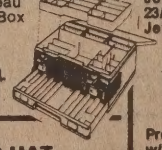

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fishermen, the greatest numbers were in the 1 kg/2 lb (37) an 2 kg/4 lb (32) line classes. New records were set for 65 of the 74 freshwater species currently listed by IGFA, with 32 new marks established for various members of the bass family, 18 for salmons, 22 for trout and 27 for catfish.

The saltwater line class categories accounted for the largest number of records set during the year with a total of 263. For the first time, women anglers outdid the men in the record setting, 133 to 130. Many records were set in the ultralight line classes: 37 in the 1 kg/2 lb line class and 47 in the 2 kg/4 lb category.

Records were established for 67 of the 77 saltwater species listed by IGFA last year. The leaders were: Pacific halibut (14), white marlin (10), conger (10), European bass (9) and bigeye trevally (8).

Flyrodders set 78 new records for freshwater species and 43 marine fish during the past year. The greatest number of freshwater fly fishing records were in the 2 kg/4 lb and 6 kg/12 lb tippet classes with 19 each. THis varies from recent years when most of the freshwater fly rod records were set in the 1 kg/2 lb tippet class. The most saltwater records (11) were set in the 8 kg/16 lb tippet class.

New fly rod records were established for 35 different freshwater species and for 25 saltwater species.

IGFA's expansion of its record program in recent years has opened many opportunities for anglers in all categories ranging from weekend "novices" to experienced big game sport fishermen to join the ranks of world record holders. Despite the large numbers of records established already, there are still many chances for tomorrow's record seekers.

IGFA has added the kahawai, bluefin travelly and mutton snapper to the line class and fly rod categories, and is continuing a study of potential additions to the species list in the near future. All tackle record applications for species not currently included on the record lists will be accepted as they have been since the all tackle program was enlarged in 1984.

TOPAZ MARINE CORP. ANNOUNCES NEW APPOINTMENT

Mr. Pat Patterson, President of Topaz Marine Corp., announced the appointment of Len Garofoli to the position of Vice President of Sales and Marketing. Len will manage the company's network of dealer accounts throughout the U.S. and will also be responsible for coordinating all new products and promotion plans.

Len Garofoli's background includes the position of National Sales Manager for Luhrs Corporation and prior to joining Topaz, he was the Vice President of Californian Yachts of Tustin, CA.

Topaz Marine Corporation is a builder of semi-custom sport fishing boats from 29 to 50 feet and is headquartered in Owings, Maryland.

SPARK PLUG BASICS

Calling a key participant in an organization or team a "spark plug" is an apt metaphor because a spark plug in an internal combustion engine literally makes the whole thing go.

Bcause of the importance of plugs, it's a good idea for boaters to know something about their characteristics, according to the boating authorities at Mariner Outboards.

How do you know when they're bad? Fouled, defective or worn-out plugs betray their presence in various ways. If the engine won't start, idles poorly, "misses" or won't run as fat as it used to, the possible cause may be bad spark plugs.

To inspect the plugs, remove the cowl of your outboard, disconnect the leads and unscrew them. Clean them and inspect them visually. If the center electrode is eroded, replace the plug with a new one. Don't use any plugs that you find lying around; get the one that is recommended by the manufacturer in the owner's guide.

Check the gaskets to be sure they're in good condition. Replace them if they're not.

Reinstall the plugs by screwing them hand tight, then giving them another 1/4 turn with a wrench. Do not overtighten or you may crack an insulator or strip the threads.

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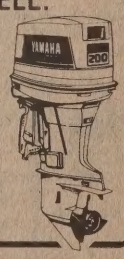

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Connect the leads to their respective spark plugs. This is simple enough, but it's surprising how often even professional service people carelessly put the leads on the wrong plugs. While you're making sure you are putting the leads in the right place, check them for damage or deterioration. Replace them if they aren't in good shape.

SENATORS WALLOP AND BREAUX RECOGNIZED BY NATION'S ANGLERS

Senators John Breaux and Malcolm Wallop accepted the Sport Fishing Institute's second annual Fisherman of the Year Award on Tuesday for their work as the prime sponsors of the 1984 amendments to the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act.

The awards were presented at a reception hosted by the Sport Fishing Institute at the Senate Dirksen Office Building on Capitol Hill. More than 100 guests, including 10 members of the House and Senate attended the reception. The presentations were made by D.F. "Fritz" Myers, Chairman of the Sport Fishing Institute and Vice President for Marine Products of Outboard Marine Corporation; and Gilbert Radonski, President of the Institute.

The Fisherman of the Year is an annual award presented by the Sport Fishing Institute to recognize significant effort on behalf of sport fishing. Vice President George Bush was the recipient of last year's award. Nominations for the 1988 Fisherman of the Year Award are now being accepted by the Sport Fishing Institute.

NFWF ANNOUNCES GRANTS TO SUPPORT STRIPED BASS RESTORATION

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Board Chairman Thomas G. McMillan announced today that it has received several grants to help restore the striped bass on the East Coast.

McMillan said the funds will be used to acquire equipment that will be provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to assist the States of Maryland and Virginia in a stocking and tagging program on the Chesapeake Bay striped bass and to provide rewards to anglers who catch tagged fish and return the tags.

Donors to the project, who have contributed a total of $65,000 so far, include the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association, the Sport Fishery Research Foundation, Luther and Marcia Brady Tucker Foundation and Mrs. John Campbell White. OMC Corporation, through the efforts of Frize Meyers, Vice President of Marketing and Chairman of the Board of the Sport Fishing Institute, has also donated an outboard engine.

Frank H. Dunkle, Director of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, praised the Foundation and the organizations and individuals that have contributed. "The Chesapeake Bay striped bass restoration project has become a

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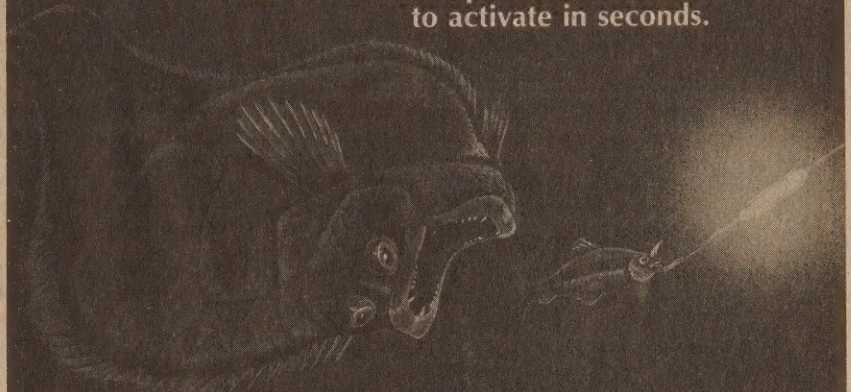

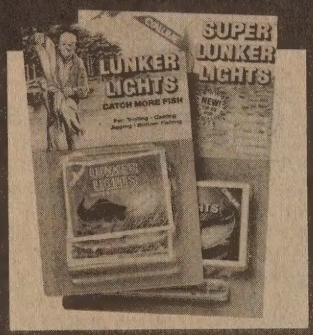

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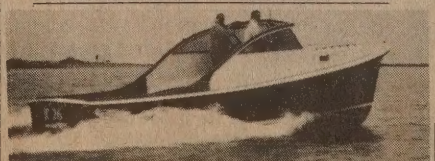

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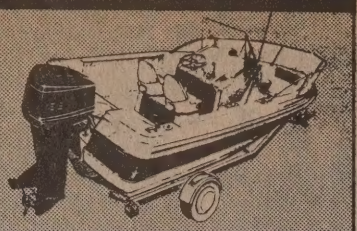

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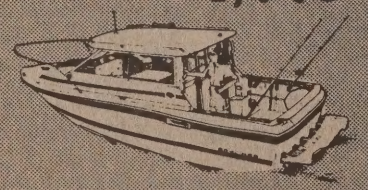

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model of private and public sector cooperation. We hope that the contributions that have been made to date will spur on additional private sector support," he said.

Charles H. Collins, Executive Director of the Foundation added, "We are pleased to announce these grants during National Fishing Week. The striped bass is one of the nation's most important game fish and we are particularly enthused by the strong support of both the sport fishing community and fishing tackle manufacturers for this project."

Collins stressed that the stocking, tagging, and reward program is part of an overall restoration effort that will also require the continuation of habitat improvement programs. "Stocking programs alone cannot restore the striped bass. Water quality enhancement programs on the Chesapeake must continue in order to maintain viable breeding stocks," he said.

Both Maryland and Virginia have signed cooperative agreements with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to assist in restoring the Chesapeake Bay population and other states on the coast are participating as well. The NFWF will supply a specialized electroshocking boat, tags, tagging equipment and rewards for the program which will be administered by the Service's Chesapeake Bay Fisheries coordinator.

Gilbert C. Radonski, President of the Sport Fishing Institute and Vice President of the Sport Fishery Research Foundation praised the Fish and Wildlife Foundation's efforts, "The key to success in restoring the striped bass will be the ability to maintain good cooperative working relationships between the states, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and private fishing interests. This project embodies those components, and it can serve as a model for the management of other anadromous fisheries."

Thomas P. Conley, Executive Vice President of the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association also expressed his support for the project. "We are proud to support this striped bass restoration program. The striped bass is one of the Nation's most important sport fisheries and our membership, which includes the Nation's leading fishing tackle manufacturers, feels strongly about its importance to the sport fishing community," he said.

Historically up to 90 percent of the East Coast population of striped bass was spawned in the Chesapeake Bay. Over the last 15 years the species' numbers has dropped by over 90 percent, resulting in a dramatic decline in the coastwide population. The drop has been attributed to declining water quality in the spawning areas of the tidal estuaries and to overfishing. Maryland enacted a full moratorium on fishing for striped bass two years ago and Virginia followed suit with a partial moratorium last year. Other states along the East Coast have enacted programs designed to reduce harvest pressures as well.

For further information about the striped bass project and the Foundation's other programs, contact Charles H. Collins, Executive Director, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Room 2626, 18th & C Streets, N.W. 20240.

COAL WASTE ARTIFICIAL REEF PROJECTS (C-WARP)

Americans have a voracious appetite for electric energy. In much of the country, this translates into the burning of coal to generate electricity to satisfy that appetite. It is currently estimated that 700 million tons of coal per year are being mined. The figure is expected to increase to 1.4 billion tons annually by 1990 and to 1.9 billion tons annually by the year 2000.

Although coal is a domestic resource and less expensive than oil, it is a dirty fuel. For example, a typical 600 megawatt generating plant can consume 1.7 million tons of coal per year. If this same plant burns a typical coal containing 10 percent ash and 1.5 percent sulfur, approximately 290,000 dry tons of combustion wastes will be generated *per year.* These coal combustion wastes are in the form of fly ash, bottom ash and flue gas desulfurization (FGD) sludges.

Disposal of coal by-products is an expensive proposition. It is estimated that it can cost up to $11 per ton to dispose of coal combustion by-products. The estimated annual disposal cost to the entire industry runs into the many millions. These estimates are likely to continue to rise, as disposal sites become filled and new landfill sites become scarce.

One alternative solution which has promise is the processing of the materials into blocks and then depositing these into marine or freshwater environment as artificial reefs. Such an approach can be referred to as C-WARP (acronym for Coal Waste Artificial Reef Projects).

C-WARP reefs have been tested in Long Island Sound and have been proposed for the Great Lakes. Chemical, biological and physical tests have indicated that the materials can be made environmentally and physically safe, and can provide substrate for organisms in marine and freshwater environments.

C-WARP represents a unique opportunity for resource management. Two seemingly unrelated interests, the fishing industry and utility industry, can combine efforts towards mutually beneficial projects. Fishery programs receive good reef building material and electrical utilities can solve a tricky and difficult disposal problem.

Despite the possible benefits, there have been few projects constructed, and at present, few being considered. This is due to a number of constraints:

• Confusion on what constitutes federal, state and industry policy towards C-WARP.

• Lack of information on the benefits of such projects.

• Little information on how such projects should be sited or managed.

• Little coordination between government and industry on the feasibility of such a program.

These and other constraints have led to few projects actually being completed. However, a number of recent developments should help to reduce or eliminate these barriers to coal by-product reef development. Some of these are:

• Passage of the National Fishing Enhancement Act (P.L. 98-623), reducing liability on the part of materials donors.

• Publication of the National Artificial Reef Plan, identifying coal combustion waste as a possible artificial reef material.

• Renewed interest on the part of government and industry about artificial reef development.

SFI has been involved with federal and state agencies, industry, researchers and trade association personnel to investigate the feasibility of C-WARP. To this point, most of the work seems to have focused on ocean dumping or disposal of waste materials.

Much remains to be done before there is widespread development of artificial reefs constructed of coal combustion by-products. However, the benefits which could potentially accrue to both fishery interests and energy interests are too great to ignore. There needs to be an active and concerted efforts on the part of both fishery and utility interests to determine the real potential of C-WARP as a reef technology.

CALIFORNIA ANGLER WINS TRIP TO AUSTRALIA IN THE CATCHIT PHOTO CONTEST

Trying his luck in California's Lake Sabrina with *Catchit* Fishing Bait landed Tony Freeman much more than a stringer of fat rainbow trout. A photograph of him with his catch and the unique bait he used to land it hooked the grand prize in the Catchit "Catch A Winner" Contest for the Anaheim, California school teacher.

Freeman's grand prize includes round trip tickets for two on Quantas to Sydney, Australia, six nights in a posh hotel there and ground transportation to and from the airport. While on the kangaroo continent, Freeman and his wife plan to visit some former exchange students he's taught at Anaheim High School and of course, do some fishing.

Five first prize winners in the Catchit competition received Penn 230GR graphite spinning reels. Kunnan graphite fishing rods were awarded to 10 second prize winning anglers.

For more information on this unique fishing bait, write: Catchit Fishing Bait, Burns Philp Company of San Francisco, 750 Bryant Street, Dept. P, San Francisco, CA 94107.

SPORT FISHING DRAWS ALMOST 7 MILLION NEW PARTICIPANTS IN 1985

Results of a recently completed study reveal that 6,879,000 men, women and children fished in fresh and salt waters for the first time in 1985, according to a study of "Sport Fishing Participation in 1985" conducted for the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association by NPD Special Industry Services of Port Washington, NY.

To obtain survey results, a questionnaire was mailed to 10,000 households balanced on families versus singles and including controls for representation of hispanics and blacks as well as such key demographics as income, age, household size and region.

The Bureau of the Census has estimated the 1985 population of the United States as 239.3 million or an indicated increase of 1.3 percent over 1984. The AFTMA study's projected 4.9 percent increase means that participation in sport fishing grew at a percentage rate 3.8 times that of the U.S. population from 1984 to 1985. Greatest growth occurred in the 25 to 34 and the 35 to 54 age brackets with combined increases of 45.4 percent in freshwater and 50.2 percent in saltwater anglers.

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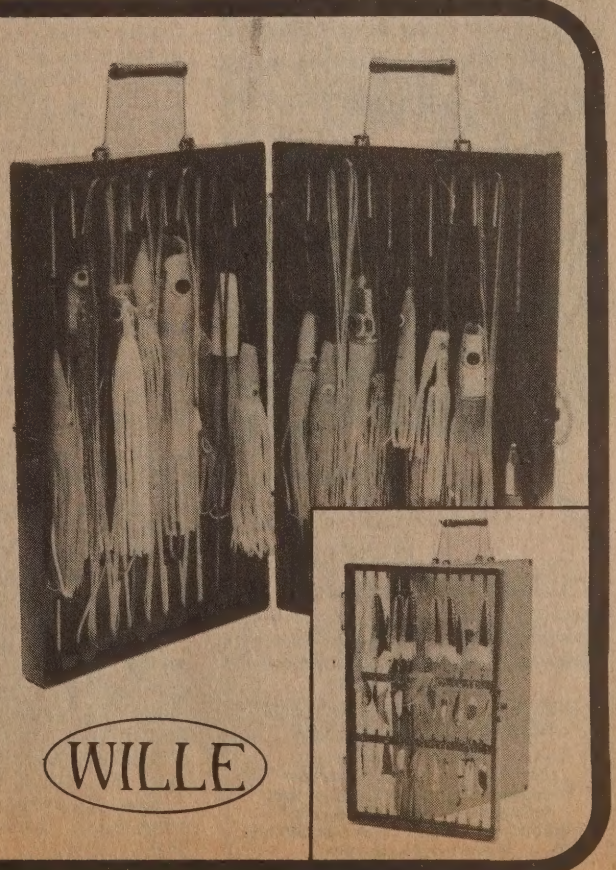

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NEW PRODUCTS

PLIERS AND SHEATHS MADE FOR EACH OTHER

Many fishermen prefer to carry tools such as Sargent-style and Long Nose pliers on their belts. Shurkatch/Ruff'N Ready now offers nickel plated Sargent-style pliers and two sizes of Long Nose pliers complete with custom fitted cases in embossed basketweave pattern that fits right on user's belt.

Fishermen can choose pliers with non-slip plastic grips, plus genuine embossed and oil finished sheaths that fit just about any belt. Sheaths and pliers retailf or about $9.95 to $14.95.

More information available by contacting Shurkatch/Ruff'N Ready at 507 Alden Street, Fall River, MA 02722, or by calling (80) 272-4223.

ARKANSAS PERFECT TRI-HONE

Normark Corporation is proud to present *Arkansas Perfect*, a new method of forming the finest cutting stones of Novaculite crystals into perfect dimensional sharpening stones.

With this "New Arkansas Perfect" forming method you get a uniform product to stringent quality controls, eliminating fissures, pits, saw marks, or uneven dispersement of Novaculite crystals. Because of the controlled higher density of Novaculite crystals in Arkansas Perfect Stones, they are the only stones offering a worry free sharpening process that will prevent the possibility of scratching, marring or nicking your finest expensive knives, and the "only" stone that polishes while it sharpens.

Is it any wonder that Normark has chosen Arkansas Stones as the only stone suited for their legendary Fish 'n Fillet knives?

Independent laboratory tests have determined that this new forming process also extends the life of the Arkansas Perfect stone three to four times longer than other stones available.

As if all these accomplishments were not enough, Arkansas Perfect brings even another dimension to its list. Since the size of the knife blade determines the size of the proper stone needed, the consumer has, through the years, had difficulty in finding larger stones available in volume at competitive prices.

Arkansas Perfect changes all that, delivering volume large stones at very competitive prices. Normark will introduce its Arkansas Perfect Whetstone line in four densities: extra coarse; coarse Washita; hard fine, white and extra fine, black.

The Tri-Hone is a complete sharpening system featuring three grades of stone:

Arkansas Perfect Abrasive Stone: extra coarse stone ideal for badly worn blades or tools.

Arkansas Perfect Washita: coarse—the world's most versatile and popular whetstone.

Arkansas Perfect Hard: fine; produces that perfect final razor-sharp edge.

The golden wood base with its four non-skid rubber cleats holds the matching rotating centerpiece to expose the desired sharpening surface.

Available in three sizes: PfTH-4, PfTH-6 and PfTH-8. A must for every kitchen!

KOHLER MARINE GENERATORS

Kohler Co., a long time marine generator supplier for pleasure craft, had added three new models to its product range.

The three new diesel powered marine sets are the model 15CCO, 20CCO and 32ROS. Model 15CCO is a 15 kW genset powered by the Yanmar 4JHL-K; four cylinder engine operating at 1800 RPM. The generator has 120/240 volt capability or is reconnectable to 120 volt. Electric starting is by means of a start/stop switch located on the controller or by an optional remote switch. The Kohler 15 kW marine genset weighs in at 760 lbs. and measures 43-31/32" long, by 32-5/8" wide and 25-13/16" high.

Model 20CCO, a 20 kW generator, also features a Yanmar 4JHL-K series engine operating at 1800 RPM. Both the 15 kW and 20kW units are designed for one side servicing of the air cleaner, fuel system, oil fill, oil filter and oil check. Self-protection features include low oil pressure, high water temperature, high cylinder head and high exhaust temperature cutouts.

Model 20CCO delivers a full 20,000 watts yet its size equals that of a smaller, less powerful genset. The Kohler 20 kW marine generator measures only 43-31/32" in length, 21-5/8" in width, and 26-3/16" in height and weighs just 785 lbs.

Rated at 32 kW, model 32ROZ features a four cylinder Cummins 4B3.9-M marine engine. Voltage capabilities include 120/240 volt at 60 Hertz, 1800 RPM with a 110/220 volt, 50 Hertz model rated at 25 kW available for international markets. Voltage regulation is within ±1% and frequency regulation ±5%. Engine self-protection features include cutouts for low oil pressure, high water temperature, overcrank, high exhaust temperature, and low coolant level. Dimensions for the 32 kW are 62" long, 30" wide, by 35" high. Dry weight is 1424 lbs.

All three new Kohler models incorporate a closed freshwater cooling system. This system provides thermostatically controlled, uniform cooling

regardless of intake water temperature and is exceptionally efficient in salt or silt laden water. The cooling system includes a heat exchanger, sea water pump, circulating pump, and a combination water-cooled exhaust manifold and expansion tank.

The Kohler relay controller is used on all marine models. Connections to the controller are by plugs/receptacles and clearly identified terminals which are corrosion resistant and eliminate the possibility of misconnection. The controller is rubber mounted to isolate vibration and includes safety shutdowns for overheating and low oil pressure. In addition, the 32 kW model features shutdowns for overheating, low coolant level, overspeed and overcrank plus a safety shutdown fault lamp and reset switch.

Generator design features include rotating field design, copper winding to ensure minimal heat build-up, drip proof construction, NEMA Class F insulation and a four lead reconnectable stator. The rotor and stator are coated with a high bond epoxy varnish and vacuum impregnated for fungus resistance to prevent corrosion in high humidity areas. Directly connected to the engine, the generator has a sealed precision ball bearing with end bearing tolerance ring to prevent shaft misalignment and extend bearing life.

Typical of Kohler marine generator sets, all three new models are offered with such accessories as a water-cooled exhaust silencer, remote start and meter panel kit, ship-to-shore transfer switch, hush cover, sea water strainer, siphon break and battery cable kit.

For more information on Kohler marine generators, contact Kohler Co., Generator Division, Kohler, WI 53044; (414) 565-3381.

FISH HAWK MINI DEPTHFINDER

Expensive, super complicated, large sized instruments are not essential to successful, enjoyable fishing. The sophisticated, advanced technology at Fish Hawk has produced an inexpensive mini sonar depthfinder that is easy to use and really works.

Operating on 9v portable radio batteries, this compact instrument monitors depths from 4 to 60 feet, alerting the fisherman to the hotspots where he's most likely to be successful in bringing home the "catch of the day."

Its compact size fits easily into a tackle box, jacket pocket, or the palm of your hand. It is designed for use while the engine is not operating.

To operate, the suction cup transducer is pressed onto a clean area just below the waterline. It locates dropoffs, potholes, underwater brush and other natural hiding places for fish. It is ideal for fishermen who use different boats as it's a natural take along.

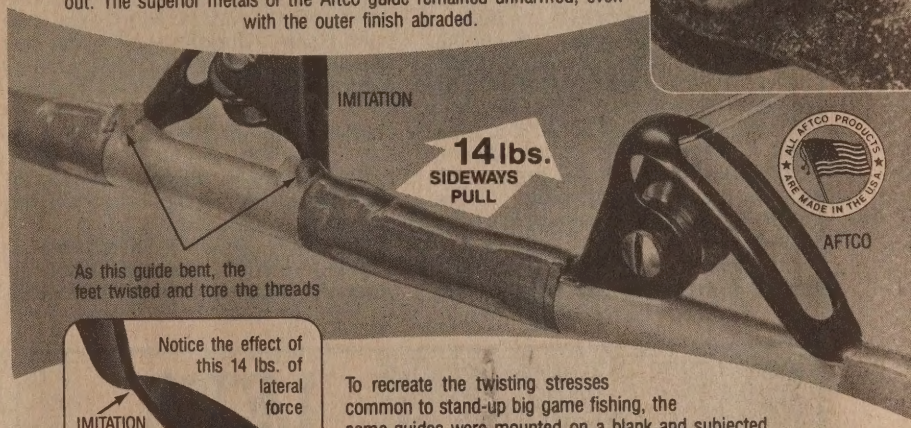
Even in a small boat where space is limited it is possible and practical to have good equipment to determine

OUR NAME SHOULD BE ON YOUR ROD!

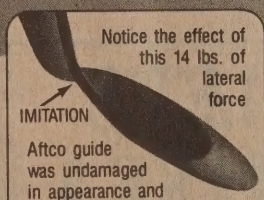
. . . because it tells you that the rod builder refused to compromise with quality. It says something reassuring about things not easily seen . . . like the strength and performance of the blank, the tightness of the wraps, and the durability of the colors, adhesives and finish. With guides of lesser quality, you have to wonder in what other ways the integrity of the rod may be questionable.

It's easy to make a guide that looks like an Aftco. Your eyes can't tell that Aftco's sturdier frames are a tougher alloy that won't bend when you take on the big ones, or that our superior Aftco finishes will ward off corrosion year after year. Only X-ray vision would reveal that our rollers are premium "316" stainless steel, more costly and difficult to machine, but virtually impervious to pitting and corrosion. Nor will you see the "Aftcote" Teflon lubricant, bonded to our bearings for life, that keeps the roller action silky-smooth year after year and cuts maintenance to a bare minimum.

The Aftco guide at right and a close imitation (below) were both tumbled with abrasive pellets to duplicate the abuse of long term offshore fishing, then dipped in and out of ocean water for 3 weeks. The close-up photos show how this extreme abrasion eroded the finish of both, but the saltwater attacked only the imitation and turned it green with corrosion inside and out. The superior metals of the Aftco guide remained unharmed, even with the outer finish abraded.



As this guide bent, the feet twisted and tore the threads



Aftco guide was undamaged in appearance and performance while the feet of the imitation twisted badly.

To recreate the twisting stresses common to stand-up big game fishing, the same guides were mounted on a blank and subjected to 14 lbs. of lateral pull. The Aftco frame was unaffected while the imitation guide bent over a full 90 degrees and ruptured its thread windings.

The real shortcomings show up AFTER you buy the rod when hard fishing gives you the bad news. So BEFORE you buy, look for the Aftco name on the guides. With over 28 years of testing on every ocean and under all conditions, they have taken more IGFA world record fish from the seas than any other guides. They are the best you can buy. Anything less is no bargain!

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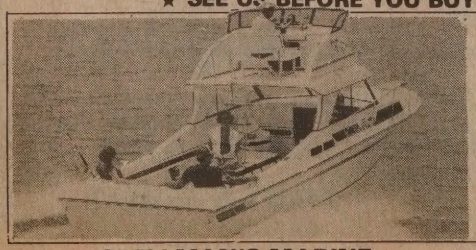

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water depth and find structure, saving frustrations and wasted time for the serious angler and amateur alike.

The pocket size mini sonar fish finder comes complete with transducer, suction cup, clip and manual. Suggested retail price of the mini sonar depthfinder from Fish Hawk is $89.95.

From Fish Hawk Electronics Corp., P.O. Box 340, Crystal Lake, IL 60014.

BECKSON'S SCREW TYPE DRAIN PLUG

Beckson's new Model DP 10-B is a 1 inch screw type drain plug that is quickly and easily installed in transoms of small boats, fish wells, coolers, ice chests and water tanks.

Made of durable black marine quality plastic, the Beckson drain plug is ideal for replacing worn, corroded or inferior plugs or for adding one where it's needed.

The DP 10-B features a screw type self-cleaning thread design and a round rubber gasket to ensure a watertight seal. Beckson's drain plug has an end attachment which keeps it connected to the drain hole even if fully open. This end attachment prevents the loss or misplacing of the plug itself. If needed, this plastic attachment can be bent to temporarily remove the plug. The plug only requires a 1 inch diameter hole for installation.

For further information, contact William F. Spangler, Beckson Marine, Inc., P.O. Box 3336, Bridgeport, CT 06605; (203) 333-1412.

THE LCR 8000: THE WIDE SCREEN DEPTH SOUNDER THAT MAKES CHARTS OBSOLETE!

Humminbird proudly presents the ultimate in electronic depth sounder equipment: the LCR 8000—the depth sounder that makes charts obsolete! Featuring the revolutionary split screen display, the LCR 8000 shows underwater views in ways that were never before possible. Split screen zoom and bottom lock let you see the up close display *and* the full depth range at the same time. And the innovative split screen memory allows you to recall up to 16 previously stored readings and compare them with the current one—and keeps that information even when the unit is turned off or the power is disconnected!

The LCR 8000 is fully loaded with advanced sonar technology features, including Humminbird's exclusive Total Screen Update, which changes the entire wide screen LCD display every time a new function is performed. A vast array of other features includes zoom, bottom-lock with contour indication, digital bottom readout, a fish alarm, a bottom alarm, an optional Surface Temperature Gauge, plus many more.

The LCR 8000 is designed to operate either automatically or manually, making it easy to operate and fun to use. And with its advanced features, the LCR 8000 does things charts and graphs can never do!

For more information, contact Techsonic Industries, Inc., 3 Humminbird Lane, Eufaula, AL 36027; (205) 687-6613.

INTRODUCING THE EDGEMAKER

Elgin Industries announces marketing a new product: the Elgin Edgemaker. This unique device sharpens *all* types of knives—be it scalloped, serrated or electric. In addition, it sharpens scissors, garden tools, shears, lawnmower blades, etc.

For Elgin Industries, internationally known for quality automotive parts for over 67 years, this marks a departure in product area. According to Martin Skok, President, this Edgemaker is the first sharpener that he has used that really works. Mr. Skok is well known for his outdoor activities, particularly hunting and deep sea fishing.

The Edgemaker, made of rugged steel and high impact plastic, is compact and designed to be kept close at hand in places such as the tackle box, car trunk, garden tool box and even in a kitchen drawer. The Edgemaker is for everyone—from outdoorsman to homemaker and will probably be the last sharpener the average person will ever need. It is so easy to use that even a beginner can do a professional job.

30 years of boat excellence!
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THE FINEST FIBERGLASS WORK IN THE BUSINESS!
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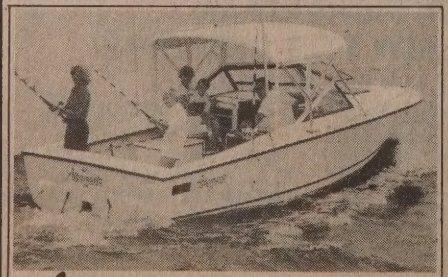
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• Totally unsinkable
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Plans are to market the sharpener for the low prices of $7.50. As are all products of Elgin Industries, the Edgemaker is made in the U.S.A.

For more information, contact Ed Bollhoffer: Elgin Industries, 1100 Jansen Farm Drive, Elgin, IL 60123; (312) 742-1720.

GR GRAPHITE SPINNING REEL SERIES FROM RYOBI

Ryobi's new GR spinning reel series combines dependable features the fisherman has come to expect with rugged, all graphite construction. Throw in a *free spare spool* and this already affordable reel becomes even more of a standout.

With a full range of sizes to meet the needs of any freshwater angler, the GR reels reflect Ryobi's attention to detail.

The stern mounted drag is calibrated for precise settings and quick changes, even when fighting a fish. Super-strong precision gears and three ball bearings team up for an unequalled level of smoothness and durability.

The graphite spool has a push-button release that makes spool changes a snap. The handle quickly converts from left to right hand retrieve and folds for easy storage.

For more information, contact Ryobi America Corporation, 1158 Tower Lane, Bensenville, Il 60106; (312) 766-1621.

EVINRUDE 70 LEADS MID-RANGE MODELS FOR 1987

Evinrude 70 hp model, introduced last year, has been improved for 1987. Using technology similar to that found in the V4, V6 and V8 loopers, the 1987 70 hp model features improved port timing resulting in increased power in the mid-rpm range to provide even greater acceleration and water ski towing capabilities. This model joins the 40, 50, 60 and 75 hp in the mid-range outboard category known for economy and performance.

A permanent mold block with shrunk-in-place cylinder sleeves results in fewer gasketed joints, added strength and quieter operation. By using a lost foam cylinder head with cast in place water covers, the 70 hp uses fewer parts and has less chance of water leakage. A thermostat similar to that found on the V4/V8 loopers, provides excellent corrosion resistance and better temperature control resulting in smoother running and prolonged engine life.

A 3/6 alternator is standard along with VRO oil injection with "no oil" warning.

The popular 50 hp and 60 hp mid-range models return for '87. The powerful 60 hp is a three cylinder 49.7 cubic inch motor available in 20 inch manual and power trim and tilt models. All 60 hp models have the 3/6 alternator to boost battery charging capabilities along with VRO oil injection with "no oil" warning. New throt-

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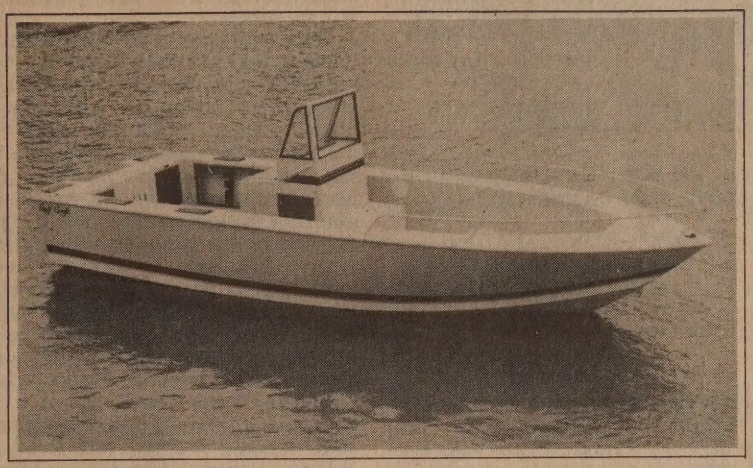

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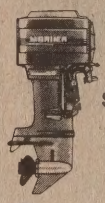

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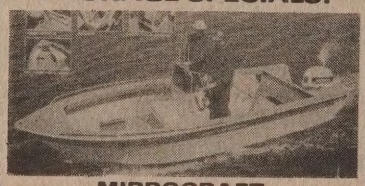

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"On the Nautical Mile"
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tle shaft bearing sleeves have been added for longer life.

A 48 hp SPL has been added for 1987. The loop charged twin cylinder model features a 44.99 cubic inch powerhead for economy with performance. Available in a 20 inch shaft remote electric, it uses a simplified single lever remote with dash mounted ignition and emergency cut-off switches.

A new 40 hp trim and tilt model has been added for 1987. All 40 hp and 50 hp remote electrics will have VRO oil injection wtih "no oil" warming. The tiller models, 50 hp and under will feature a new emergency ignition cut-off switch. Located in the tiller handle and incorporated into the stop switch, the new cut-off switch uses a clip attached to the stop switch button, a lanyard attached to the clip is in turn attached to the operator. When the clip is pulled loose, the engine will stop. A reserve clip is stored on the tiller handle to permit engine operation when a clip and lanyard assembly is not readily available. This feature is standard on all recreational tiller steered models with twist grip throttle control. AccuMix automatic oiling is standard on all 40 hp and under tiller steered models for 1987. AccuMix features a 6 gallon fuel tank with integral oil reserve that automatically meters a 100:1 fuel oil ratio. The 1½ quart oil reservoir allows for five full tanks of gasoline before oil needs to be added. If the oil level is too low, the system shuts down before engine damage can occur. The AccuMix system ends messy premixing hassles in mid-range outboards!

ALUMACRAFT'S LUNKER SERIES

When Alumacraft designed its Lunker 14SS and Lunker 16SS, it had one thing in mind: helping the fisherman catch fish. And they added deluxe marine carpeting for even more fishing pleasure.

The Lunker 14SS features two upholstered seats and three pedestal seat sockets along with an 18 gallon livewell, lockable rod compartment, rod holders and underfloor wiring channel. In addition to two upholstered seats, the 16SS features four pedestal seat sockets, a 24 gallon livewell, rod holders and lockable rod compartment, an additional locking storage compartment and underfloor wiring channel.

Recommended horsepower ranges are 15-40 for the 14SS and 15-50 for the 16SS.

Alumacraft Boat Company manufactures over 70 different models of vee bottom boats, bass boats, johnboats and canoes and is one of the largest aluminum boat and canoe manufacturers in the United States. The company maintains a dealer network of more than 700 throughout the contiguous United States, Alaska and Canada.

For complete specifications and literature on the Alumacraft Lunker 14SS and Lunker 16SS, or the entire line of quality Alumacraft boats and canoes, write today.

For further information, contact: Alumacraft Boat Company, 315 West St. Julien Street, St. Peter, MN 56082.

RATTLE SPIN WITH WILLOW LEAF BLADE FROM MANN

Mann's Bait Company offers a new Willow Leaf Blade for its best-selling Rattle Spin—the first lure on the market with a spinner blade that rattles. The Rattle Spin is also available this year with the traditional Colorado Blade. Both blades feature reflective mylar on the flat, back surface.

The Rattle Spin lure is designed with a rubber skirt, a ball bearing swivel and a hollow plastic blade loaded with buckshots to give the lure a loud rattle as it is pulled through the water. When allowed to sink, the Rattle Spin sits upright on the bottom, making this spinnerbait practically snag proof!

The Rattle Spin lures are available in a 3/8 ounce size in any combination of white, black or chartreuse with gold, silver, chartreuse or Tennessee shad blade.

Every fisherman should make a resolution for the 1987 fishing season: don't go fishing without Mann's remarkable Rattle Spin!

YAMAHA'S COUNTER ROTATION DUAL ENGINE SYSTEM

Yamaha's Counter Rotation Dual Engine System, which features counter-rotating outboard motors is clearly a move in the right direction for larger fishing and pleasure boats. The system is comprised of two V6 outboard motors with counter rotating propellers, dual binnacle control, and dual engine switch panel, plus all rigging components. This ystem, introduced last year, was the first available as a standard model from a manufacturer.

Until Yamaha introduced its counter-rotating outboards, boatmen who wanted the power, economy and security of twin outboards had to make do with two outboards that really weren't designed to work together. To get the benefits, boatmen had to put up with heavy torque caused by two motors turning their props in the same direction, and a cluttered helm with two controls, two tim and tilt switches and two ignition panels with separate keys. A level ride was nearly impossible and the skipper was faced with arm-tiring fatigue as he had to apply pressure to the helm to fight the motor torque.

With Yamaha's counter-rotating motors, the right-hand torque of one is balanced by the left-hand torque of the other. With this balance, the boat is more inclined to stay on its lines and not corkscrew to the left. The counter-rotating motors also offer increased maneuverability, allowing the boat to turn in its own length when one motor is put in forward and the other reverse.

One of the hallmarks of the system is that the motors are standard models in Yamaha's line, with stan-

dard parts for maintenance and service. No conversion or alteration to the motors is necessary and all rigging parts are included with the motor.

The Dual Binnacle Control offers a combined trim and tilt switch, enabling the operator to move the motors up or down together, and a separate switch for each motor can fine tune the operation, or raise one motor out of the water for trolling. The Dual Engine Panel also features a single unified safety lanyard that stops both motors if the operator leaves the helm, and matched key for no-fumble starting. With Yamaha's Precision Blend Oil Injection System, there's a common warning system that sounds a buzzer and lowers the rpm of both engines in the event of low oil or overheating in either.

All of Yamaha's V6 motors feature a sleek lower gearcase for high speed stability and improved fuel economy. The water pick-ups have been lowered to accommodate higher mounting. Better acceleration will be noticed thanks to the addition of 4 degrees of negative trim and 16 degrees positive trim. The negative trim will enable the boat to plane more quickly.

The motors feature Yamaha's two year factory limited warranty and the same anti-corrosion and long-life features, including more sacrificial zinc anodes in more places than any other manufacturer. For additional corrosion protection, the motors feature a five stage paint process and waterproofed parts for longer life. For added convenience, Yamaha has redesigned the primer bulb so that a single squeeze holds its charge for a full season, and placed it closer to the motor.

Noting consumer concern over unleaded fuel, Yamaha states that all its outboards operate on either leaded or unleaded fuel with no modification necessary or loss of performance. And all Yamahas have alcohol-resistant fuel lines and fuel line components.

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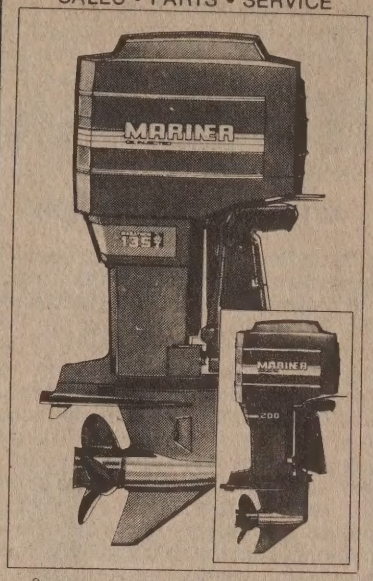

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Product Review

PLANO PHANTOM 1468 TACKLE BOX

by Jim White

One problem all small boaters have is where do you put all the tackle you need, or think you need, and still have enough room to move around?

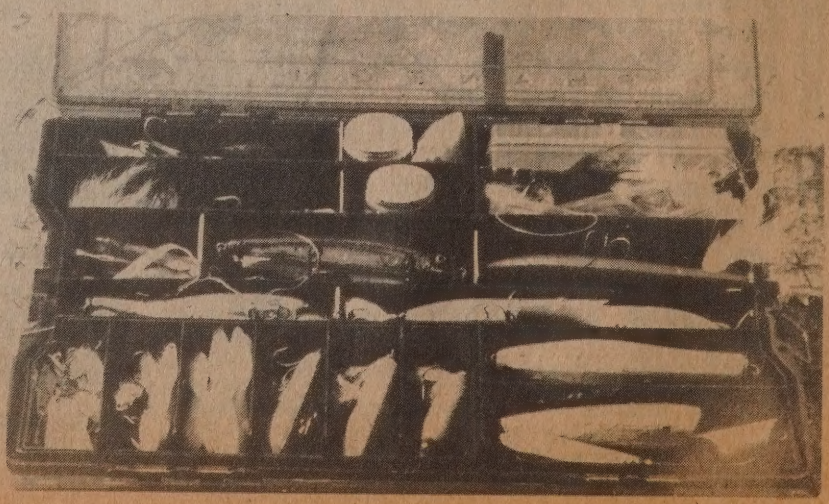
When there are two or three fishermen in the boat and they're all ready to do some serious fishing, you can bet there's enough tackle to stock a small shop. All this "stuff" can lead to space problems especially in boats under 18 feet.

Tackle storage has always been a headache to small boaters and probably always will be. There just never seems to be enough room for everything. For years tackle box manufacturers have tried to design that perfect box, that one do-all, this-is-it type. I don't believe it's been done, as of yet, but Plano is getting closer.

Last year I had a chance to view some of the new products at a press show in New York. One item in particular that caught my eye was Plano's new Phantom 1468 tackle box. Its unique black graphite look and stylish design made it stand out from all the rest. After careful examination I decided to keep this item in mind as it just might be the answer to my problems.

This past spring I purchased two for freshwater fishing. After getting them home, I couldn't wait to see how much stuff I could cram into this new lure holder. I discovered it holds an amazing amount of tackle and other related items.

Moveable dividers provide up to 68 wormproof compartments of various sizes. There is also a deep spacious compartment for large reels and other gear. The box also came with two mini-boxes which proved to be great



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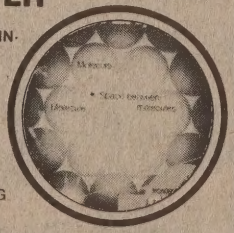

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for hooks, sinkers, small jig heads, all the little things there never seems to be any room for, yet these are the things you always need, but can never find. A removable tray has six compartments and can be left in or out. There's a spinnerbait rack capable of holding maybe two dozen baits or it can be used to hang jigs.

It opens on both sides by lifting two hefty brass hasps on either end. When opened, the box lays flat on the floor keeping its contents inside, no matter how much rocking or bouncing you do. This is a nice feature when you're out in the bay or offshore. When closed, one lid fits inside the other to make a relatively watertight seal. These double lids provide easy access to both sides and make selecting lures a quick process as you instantly see the contents at a glance.

The box can be locked on both sides to keep its contents secure. A nice feature, if you have small children around.

Probably its best feature is how little space it takes up inside the boat. Laid flat, you can easily fit 4 or 5 one on top of the other and only take up a 19-3/8 X 16 inches of floor space. When you consider how much tackle these things hold, you probably couldn't fill that many boxes to begin with.

Each lid can be marked for easy identification of the contents for that one particular side. This eliminates opening all sides looking for a certain lure or plastic bait.

I knew how nice they'd be for freshwater, but that's not their only purpose. Recently, getting ready for vacation, I needed to save space in the truck to take some saltwater gear along. After emptying one box, I began filling it with saltwater gear for our two week stay at the beach.

Now get ready for this. I stuck 32 saltwater plugs inside that thing. Plus 24 jigs, a dozen assorted Kastmasters and Hopkins lures, sinkers for bottom fishing, hooks for fluke, scup, tautog and bluefish. Enough terminal gear for a month, including swivels, fishfinders, snaps, a knife, pliers, small can of oil, 2 jars of pork rind and I don't remember what else. I was absolutely amazed at how much it held. Saltwater fishermen would be wise to take a long hard look at this box. Not only will it save you space on your boat, it'll also hold all the tackle you could use in a typical day!

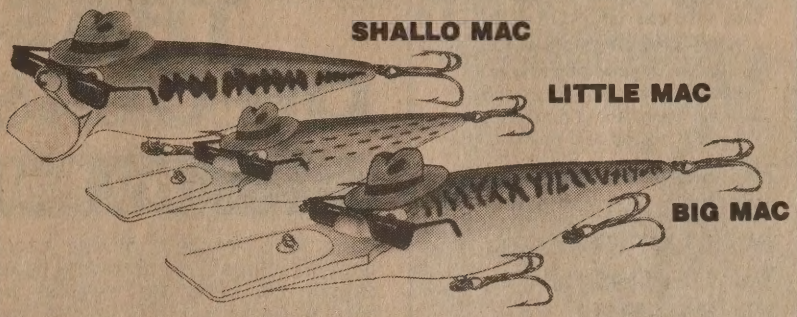
With a large, tough snap-down handle on top and constructed of high impact space age plastic, it will take the abuse of a saltwater environment.

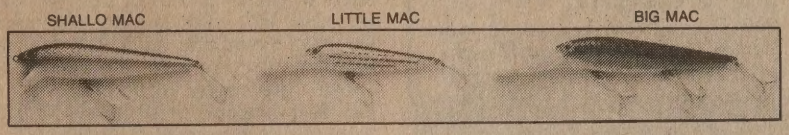
All in all, it's a box which certainly deserves your attention. Compared to what most boxes cost these days, it's relatively inexpensive. You can buy two for the price of one of some other makes and styles. The Phantom could very well solve all your space problems, too.

* * *

Manufactured by Plano Molding Company, Plano, IL 60545-0189.

The "Blues" Brothers





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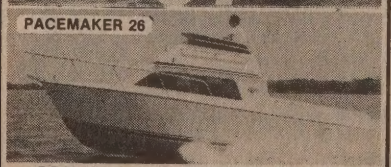

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Captain's Table

TRASH FISH OR CLASSIC DISH

by Sal Agliano

Each year, hundreds of sea robins, dogfish, conger eels and bergalls are caught by fishermen seeking out sportier game and then quickly tossed back into the sea as worthless. Deemed unworthy as sport and unsuitable for human consumption, these "grotesque abominations" of the deep are contemptuously lumped together as one entity: trash fish!

Yet across the Atlantic, these same ugly creatures or similarly related species are regularly caught and eaten in many cities throughout Europe. The two recipes which follow depend solely on so-called trash fish, yet ironically, they are classics of worldwide renown.

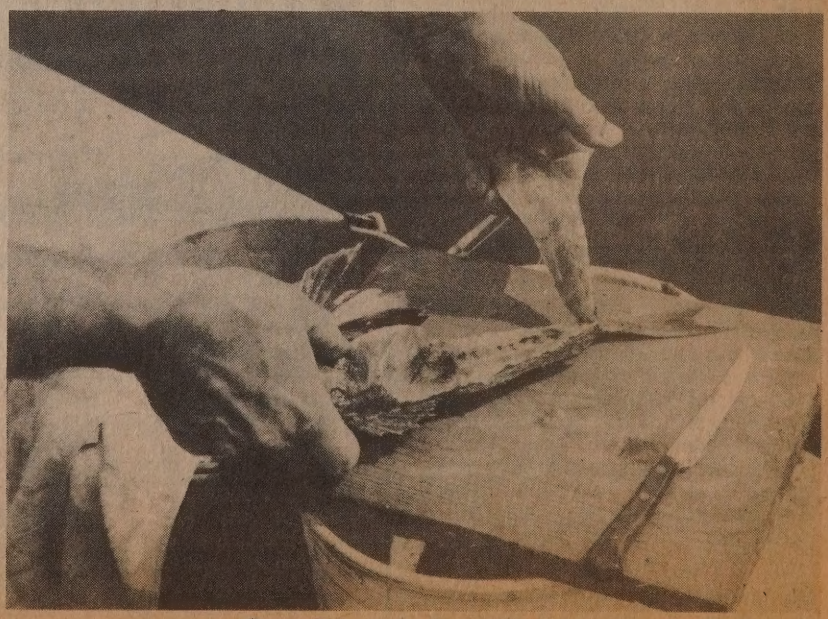
Bouillabaisse

Purists claim that *true* bouillabaisse could never be accomplished without fish native to the South of France such as *rascasse, grodin,* and *European eel.* Well, all other things being equal, I came up with a pretty good "imitation" using sea robins, bergalls and conger eels.

12 bergalls, about 1/2 lb. each
6 sea robins, about 1½ lbs. each
3 conger eels, about 1 lb. each
4 quarts water
1 cup dry white wine
1/2 cup olive oil
2 onions, sliced thinly
4 cloves garlic, crushed
1 cup chopped leeks
1 cup chopped fennel (fresh, not seeds)
1/2 cup chopped celery
4 large, ripe tomatoes
pinches of crushed red pepper and saffron
bouquet garni (thyme, bay leaf and rosemary, tied in cheesecloth)
salt and pepper to taste
1/4 cup fresh, chopped parsley

Fill a large kettle with 4 quarts of water and 1 cup of wine. Bring to a boil, then reduce flame to a simmer. Scale, gut and remove gills from bergalls. Add cleaned bergalls to kettle. Gut and remove heads from sea robins and conger eels; skin and fillet. Refrigerate fillets until ready to use. Discard heads, skin and entrails; add tails and skeletal frames to kettle. Increase heat under kettle and boil vigorously for about 1/2 hour. Strain liquid through a colander (this allows some of the flaked meat to pass through, but not the bones). Measure liquid to 2 quarts and return to kettle; if liquid is less than 2 quarts, compensate with additional water. Simmer gently.

Heat a large skillet, then add olive oil. When oil sizzles to a drop of water, saute briefly onions, garlic, leeks, fen-



Sea robins make fine table fare.

nel and celery. Core and peel tomatoes, then quarter and add to kettle. Cook for about 10 minutes, stirring freuently. Remove from heat and stir in crushed red peper and saffron. Add sauteed vegetables to kettle with fish stock. Continue to simmer.

Cut sea robin and conger eel fillets into chunks about 1½ inches long. Add fillets to kettle along with bouquet garni, salt and pepper. Simmer gently for about 1/2 hour.

Remove bouquet garni from kettle and discard. Stir in fresh parsley and *Sauce Rouille* (spicy garlic mayonnaise traditionally used in this dish). Serve in deep bowls over thin slices of toasted French bread.

Sauce Rouille

4 cloves garlic
1 egg yolk
1/4 tsp cayenne pepper
pinches of salt and saffron
1/2 cup olive oil

Crush garlic to a paste, then scrape into a mixing bowl. Add egg yolk and with a wire whisk or electric mixer, beat vigorously until egg has emulsified. Add cayenne pepper, salt and saffron; stir in. While beating, slowly pour in olive oil in a steady stream. Mix until well blended and creamy.

English Fish 'n Chips

The English are not so fussy about the choice of fish when it comes to preparing this dish. Traditionally dogfish is used, so why break tradition when these fish are so readily available.

2 lbs. dogfish fillets, cut in cubes
4 cups cold water
1 cup malt vinegar
1/2 tsp sugar
1 cup flour
1 tbsp oil
1 egg, slightly beaten
1 cup warm beer
salt and pepper to taste
4 lbs. potatoes, peeled and cut
French fry style
cooking oil, enough for deep frying

Place fillets in a deep bowl and cover with water and malt vinegar (if malt vinegar is not available, cider vinegar works just as well). Sprinkle on sugar and refrigerate for about 2 hours.

While fish are soaking in marinade, prepare a batter by mixing flour, oil, egg, beer, salt and pepper. Set batter aside and fry potatoes in hot oil until golden brown. Drain on paper toweling.

Remove fish from marinade and pat dry. Add fish to batter and mix thoroughly. Place batter dipped fish cubes, one at a time, into hot oil and fry on all sides until golden brown. Drain on paper toweling.

Serve fish 'n chips together on the same platter over a bed of lettuce. Instead of lemon, the English sprinkle on vinegar and a bit of salt.

Try these two dishes using those throwaway fish that so often interrupt a day's fishing, then you can decide for yourself— trash fish or classic dish!

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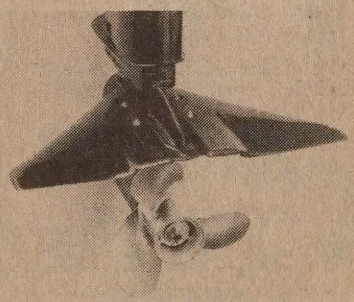

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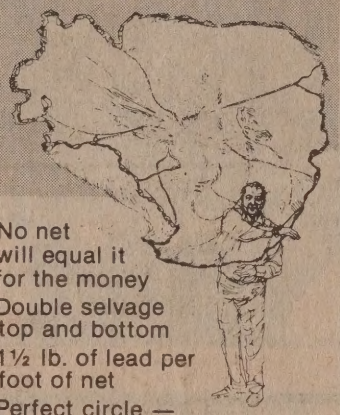

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The Tackle Doctor

by Ken Freel

Dear Doc,

I am an avid catfisherman and thus do most of my fishing during the night. I have found the fishing to be best a couple of nights after the full moon and the extra light it affords also makes the fishing quite a bit easier. Therefore, I have found the moonrise/moonset tables in The Fisherman to be an invaluable asset when planning fishing trips.

However, it is often difficult to plan for trips a few weeks in advance. Would you kindly send me (or inform me where I could obtain) a moonrise/moonset table? Your help in this matter would be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. *Jon Falkowski.*

Dear Jon,

The information you need is called "Tide Tables: The East Coast of North and South Americas." To obtain this information, send $6.95 (includes postage) to: National Ocean Service, 6501 Lafayette Ave., Riverdale, MD 20737.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I have in my possession three reels which I need to know which rods are best to match them with, and if tarpsail line is still available. Also, how much are these reels worth and for what type of surf fishing are they made? The reels are the Pflueger Capitol No. 1985; Pflueger Akerite Surfcasting No. 2068; and the Sea Lake conventional reel. Thanks.
Sean Donnelly.

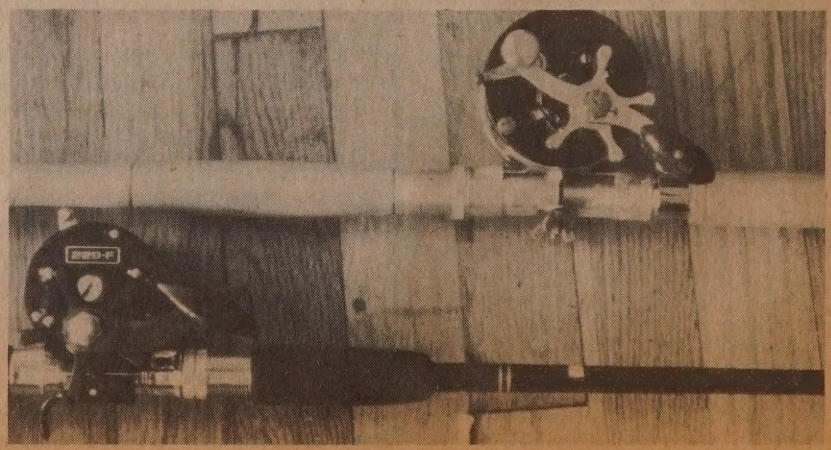
Dear Sean,

None of the reels you've mentioned above are still in production so you may want to reconsider using them for day to day fishing. The Pflueger 1985 Capitol reel is shown in Albert J. Munger's book "Those Old Fishing Reels," printed by Philadelphia Graphics, Inc. That particular reel was manufactured from 1927 up until the late 50s and was an excellent reel for the time. In fact, it still is an excellent reel even by today's standards. The Capitol had a star drag system like many of today's conventional reels plus a pushbutton on the reel side plate to allow for free spooling.

The Pflueger Akerite reel and the Sea Lake also qualify as antique reels and may have some value as collector's items if in good shape. Al tells me that the reels are worth about $40 to $50.

The tarpsail line you mentioned was probably what was more commonly known as Irish linen line. This line was made in Ireland from the flax plant. This type of line was used before Wrold War II, but is not in production today. If you decide to use the reels for day to day fishing you'd be better off matching them with today's dacron or monofilament. One way to do this is to go to your local tackle shop and look for reels that have similar characteristics, find out what kind of lines (pound test, etc.) are suggested and chances are you will do all right using this line for your reels. Likewise for selecting the correct rods. Just bring the reel with you to the tackle shop and look for a rod that the reel fits with the length and action that you are looking for. When these reels were made bamboo was the common type of rod to match these reels to, but a fiberglass or graphite rod with the correct seat is your ticket today.

Al Munger has a new book out titl-



ed "Old Fishing Tackle and Tales." It's a hardcover book that sells for $20 plus $2 postage and handling. If you'd like to discuss these reels or any old reels with Al, then write or give him a call. He'd be happy to talk with you about your old tackle. Here's his address: Al Munger, 2235 Ritter Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19125, or call (215) 427-1424.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I am looking for the Hatteras type sinker for surf fishing. They have been very hard to find and I have not been able to come up with any yet. I have not even seen one yet. Could you please advise me as to where I can send for some or get a mold to make my own sinkers in 4, 6 and 8 ounces? Fred Guardineer once drew one in his article for The Fisherman. Enclosed is a SASE so you can help me out. Thank you very much. I appreciate your help. *Tom McCrae.*

Dear Tom,

This type of sinker is also known as the storm or hurricane sinker because it holds the bottom so well. The Hatteras sinker got its name because fishermen down along the coast in North Carolina use this sinker often. This type of sinker looks like a regular three-sided pyramid sinker. The big difference is that instead of tapering down into a point these sinkers have a rounded, cylinder-shaped bottom. This cylinder shape replaces the point found on the ordinary pyramid sinker. The interesting thing about this bottom is that it makes the sinker bury into the sand and thus holds bottom much better than an ordinary sinker. Word has it that a 4 ounce Hatteras sinker will hold bottom better than a 5 or 6 ounce pyramid sinker. Most of the tackle shops along the coast down in North Carolina have this sinker in stock. Listed here are three shops that can get you started: Whalebone Tackle Shop, Rt. 1, Box 1044, Nags Head, N 27959; (919) 441-7413; the Red Drum in Buxton, NC; (919) 995-5414; the Pelican's Roost in Hatteras Village, NC; (919) 986-2213. All of these shops should have the sinkers on hand. The price will probably run you about 15 cents an ounce, plus the necessary postage and handling. Give them a call and I'm sure they will send you some.

Keep the letters coming and remember, if you are hesitant to write because you feel that your question might be "dumb," the only thing to say is that the only dumb questions are the ones that you don't ask. Your question is probably one that a hundred other fishermen have been meaning to ask but just have not had the time or chance to do so. Send any questions about fishing or tackle to: The Tackle Doctor c/o The Fisherman Magazine, 1622 Beaver Dam Rd., Point Pleasant, NJ 08742. Thanks, and good fishing!

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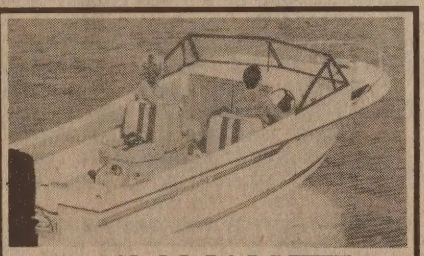

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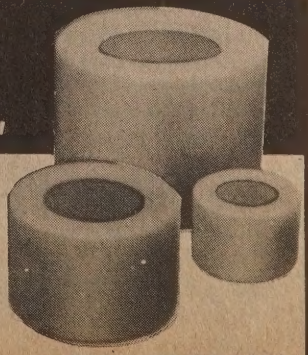

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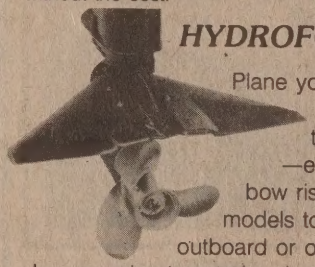

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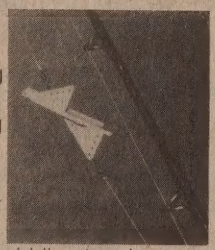

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Dock Lines

by Eric Burnley

Dear Eric,

I am concerned about getting caught outside in bad weather. I plan my trips using the NOAA weather service as a guide and keep a constant check on the weather radio, but when you are 30 miles or more offshore you can encounter some unexpected weather between there and the inlet. If I get caught in a thunderstorm what procedures do you recommend for getting through it? *Martin Caster.*

Dear Martin,

There is nothing I fear more than a thunderstorm at sea. The lightning is bad enough, with the wind and rain adding to the danger.

Last summer I was caught 15 miles east of the inlet by a moderate storm which the weather radio failed to forecast. They did give us warnings when the storm formed and began moving in our direction, but "small boaters should seek immediate shelter" is not much help to a small boater fighting 4 and 5 foot seas trying to make headway back to the inlet.

The winds were probably less than 30 knots, but the rain was quite heavy, cutting visibility down to half a mile or less. There was a lot of cloud to ground lightning and this gave me more concern than the wind or the rain.

The procedure I followed was to remove my aluminum outriggers and lay them in the bottom of the boat. I considered dropping my VHF and Loran antennas, but decided to keep them up so I could use the radio and the Loran. In hindsight, I should have lowered them, turned off the electric equipment and run home using the compass.

There were two passengers on board and I had them sit as low in the boat as possible. The captain had to stand up to see where he was going while holding on to a metal steering wheel. I figured this made me a living lightning rod, but short of tossing out a sea anchor and laying on the bottom of the boat, I had little choice in the matter.

Once you have done everything in reason to secure your boat and your passengers from lightning, all the captain can do is head into the sea and ride it out. Everyone must have a PFD on and someone should be assigned the job of checking the bilge to be certain you aren't filling up with water.

Try to run towards land if you can. Most thunderstorms move west to east, so if you head west you should run out of the storm. Do not head towards shore if the winds will hit your boat on a quarter or on your stern. You must head into the wind for maximum control of your boat and to keep the sea from coming on board.

Unfortunately, experience is the only teacher when it comes to handling a boat during severe weather. You will have to adjust your heading and speed to compensate for sea conditions, but all the writing in the world can't tell you how your particular boat will handle. Do the best job you can, don't panic and if you feel God owes you any favors, this might be a good time to call them in.

* * *

Dear Eric,

I currently have a single battery installed on my 22 foot outboard boat. Would there by any advantage to installing another battery and if so, how would I go about it? *Ed Miller.*

Dear Ed,

There are several advantages to a dual battery setup. First you have back-up starting power should one battery fail. Also you can isolate your electronic equipment on one battery while running your engine on another. You will also have twice the starting power for those cold, wet mornings when engines are sometimes reluctant to get going.

As with any electrical work on your boat you should employ the services of a marine mechanic familiar with the job, the boat and the engine if you are the least bit hesitant about doing the job yourself.

I did install dual batteries on my boat which indicates the job is not too difficult. I used a Perko Dual Battery Switch and followed the instructions that came with the unit. The battery boxes are securely bolted down and all the cables are safely run out of harm's way. My boat is an I/O, so there was plenty of room for two batteries under the engine box. Most outboard boats have battery compartments but some manufacturers will separate the batteries with compartments on each side of the boat. The only installation change this requires is longer cables from the batteries to the switch.

One common hazard encountered with dual battery setups is damage to the alternator when the selection switch is turned while the boat is running. The problem is created when the magnetic field around the coil in the

alternate collapses and finds a path to the diode which it can destroy. Special battery switches are available for use with alternators or generators and you should check the type of charging device your motor uses before you purchase the switch.

* * *

Dear Eric,

I own a 1977 21 foot cruiser Bonanza with a 175 Evinrude outboard. Two years ago, I installed a Si-Tex 32 MK-IIA combination paper recorder plus digital depthfinder. I mounted the thru-hull transducer with fairing blocks 24 inches forward of the transom, midway between the keel and side of the hull. All power wiring is connected directly to the battery and run separate from the transducer cable which is run on the port side away from any power lines.

When I start to get near planing speed the digital flashes random numbers of unintelligible origin. I called Si-Tex in Florida and they didn't think it was the unit.

I also tried a test I read about in Dock Lines: with the engine out of gear I revved the engine and the numbers remained accurate.

If that isn't enough, this year I installed a Unimetrics digital finder with a transom mounted transducer in approximately the same location between the keel and gunnel, with the exact same results.

They also react the same if I disconnect the ground, which is connected to a transom mounted zinc. Could this be the problem, or could it be the shape of the hull, or are there really 300 foot holes in Great South Bay.

Thank you in advance for your time and help. *Eric Letterman.*

Dear Eric,

It sounds as if your problem is caused by turbulence created across the face of the transducer as you reach planing speed. There are a few things you can do that may correct your problem.

Check to see that the face of the transducer makes a smooth, uninterrupted plane to the bottom of the boat. It must not stick out below the bottom or be recessed into the hull. You should be able to run your hand across the area when the transducer is mounted and not feel any bumps or cracks. You can use a silicone caulk between the transducer and the bottom to fill in any irregularities. Do not get the caulk on the face of the transducer or you will have other problems.

If you have a solid fiberglass hull you can mount the transducer inside the boat and let it shoot through the hull. Use a piece of PVC pipe that is big enough for the transducer to fit into and try it in several locations to find the optimum mounting site. Epoxy the pipe to the deck, put the transducer inside and fill the pipe with water or mineral oil. Cap the pipe and you're set.

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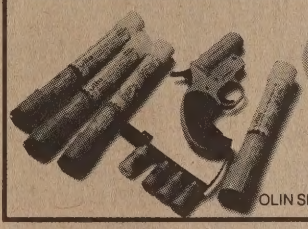

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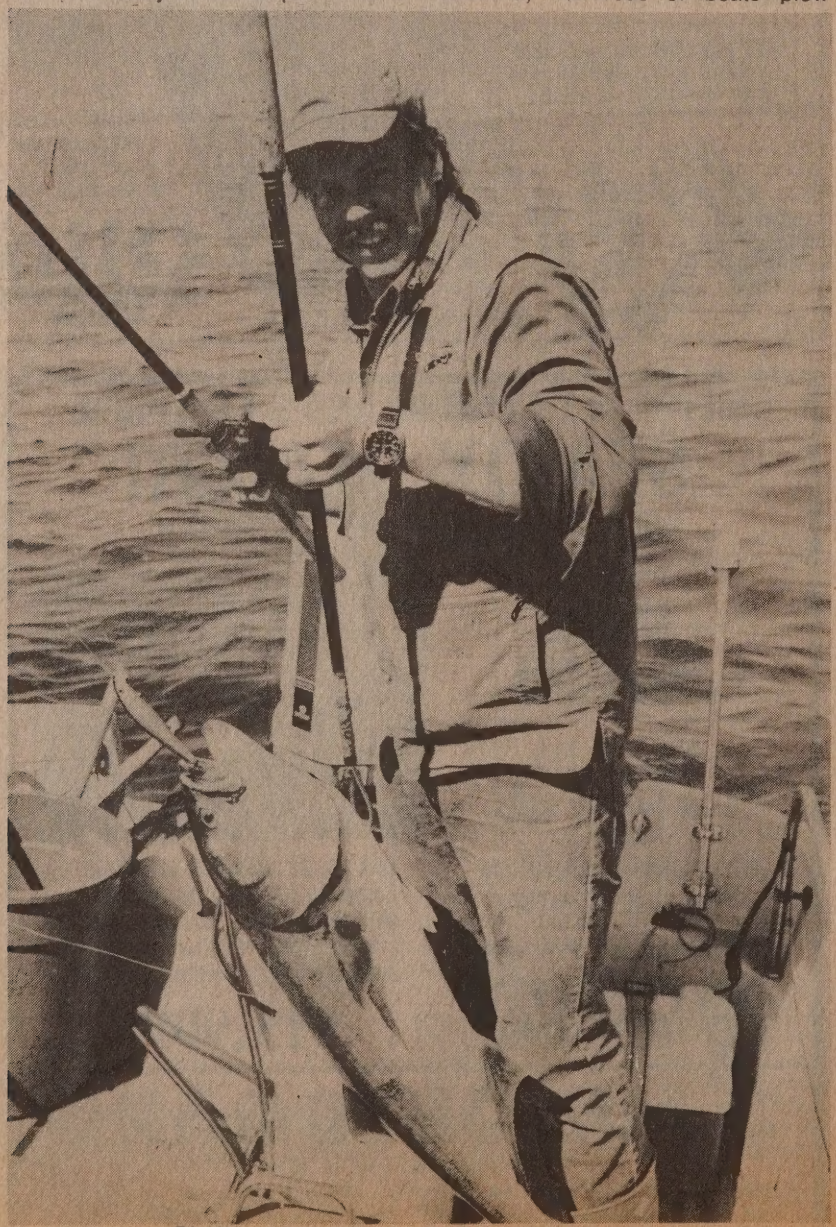
PLUGGING AROUND THE BACK BAYS

by Fred Golofaro

Sunrise was close enough at hand to cast a dim glow in the eastern sky as the small metal lipped swimmer trailed its seductive wake. Despite the half light, there was no mistaking the bulge that suddenly developed behind my plug. Seconds later, the four inch length of wood was engulfed in the swirl of a husky school striper. After a testy scuffle, the 10 pounder yieldeo to the steady pressure of the seven foot graphite baitcaster and was led to the waiting net.

The scene of this brief but satisfying encounter occurred just minutes from a heavily populated stretch of the south shore mainland. On a sunny weekend, hundreds of boats plow their way through this stretch of the State Boat Channel, discouraging any serious attempts at catching stripers, blues or weaks. While there are always those rare exceptions, your odds will increase a hundredfold by working those magical hours between sunset and dawn.



Big blues sometimes patrol these same waters.

Back when the striper population was at a peak, small boatmen enjoyed excellent school bass action in the back bays between the Meadowbrook Bridge to the west, and the Captree Drawbridge to the east. While some of these local sharpies concentrated on doling clam chum into a running tide and others elected to troll and jig nylon skirted leadheads along the fringes of the State Channel, some contented themselves with plugging these fish. While their scores might not have been as impressive, you can bet that they had a lot more fun, particularly those times when the fish proved vulnerable to surface plugs.

Given a choice, there is no way I would rather take bass and blues than with surface plugs. Nothing beats watching a game fish inhale your offering and at times simply raising fish to your lure is satisfaction enough.

Thanks to stringent coastwide regulations governing the harvesting of stripers and a healthy stock of Hudson River bred bass, this back bay fishing is again producing good action for those not averse to catch and release fishing. Many of the fish in the current crop of stripers are falling into the 5 to 10 lb. range with a sprinkling of fish into the low teens and even a "keeper" here and there. By the latter, I'm referring, of course, to the current striper regulations which allow anglers to possess one striper a day of 33 inches or more in length.

These fish, along with some big blues that often prowl these waters on the heels of bunker schools, are a perfect match for medium action baitcastinjg or spinning outfits in the 7½ foot range and matched with reels spooled with 10 to 12 pound line. Baitcasting reels comparable to the Ambassadeur 5500 or 6500, or spinning reels similar in size to the Penn 710Z work well on these rods.

While the entire length of water between the two bridges is at times productive, much of the action is focused along the banks of the State Channel, at the entrances to drains

and along channel edges between the Wantagh Bridge and Gilgo. It's calm, sheltered water and made to order for tin boats in the 14 to 16 foot range, as well as center console machines and garveys in the 16 to 19 foot range.

While some very good fishing takes places during the dark hours, you'll find plenty of good fishing during the couple of hours around daybreak. This is a great way to start your day before rushing off to the job or office. Late evening can also be rewarding providing there is minimal boat traffic. The real key to success in these areas is fishing when boat traffic is least. Those who can steal time on weekdays have a decided edge. Keep in mind, too, that some of my best days have come under a blanket of fog.

As in most back bay areas, the last stages of the flood tide often produce good action along with most of the ebb. At times your best fishing will be concentrated around the turn, but you'll experience other times when the fish are most active during the running tide.

The preferred method for working along the banks is to drift, though at times you can do well by dropping the hook. The latter when a pod of fish set up on a particular piece of structure such as a rip, wreck or dropoff. Some anglers to as far as beaching their boats and walking the bank. This enables them to work tight to the bank and eliminates any risk of spooking fish with boat noise.

Your arsenal of plugs can be kept to a minimum. Among those that you should have on hand are a couple popping plugs in the 1 to 1½ ounce size range, small metal lipped surface swimmers in the 4 to 5 inch range such as the Musso Super Strike, Danny, or the Spin Atom, and a selection of minnow shaped swimmers. The latter group should include 5½ inch versions of Bombers, Redfins, Rebels or Hellcats. Bombers appear to be a current favorite but all will take fish. Add a couple of the larger 7 inch versions of these plugs for those times when big blues or bass are raiding schools of bunker.

Since much of what you catch will be returned to the water, your gaff will see minimal action. In addition (you never know when a 40 or 50 might happen along), it's a good idea to tote along a weakfish size landing net. I don't know about you, but I'm not fond of lipping a rambunctious schoolie with a mouth full of trebles (crush your barbs) in the dark.

Just one final note, the marshes bordering this area play host to a healthy population of mosquitoes and gnats. They can be a pest at times, so a word to the wise should be sufficient. Some people swear by Avon Skin-So-Soft, but Cutters Cream works best for me.

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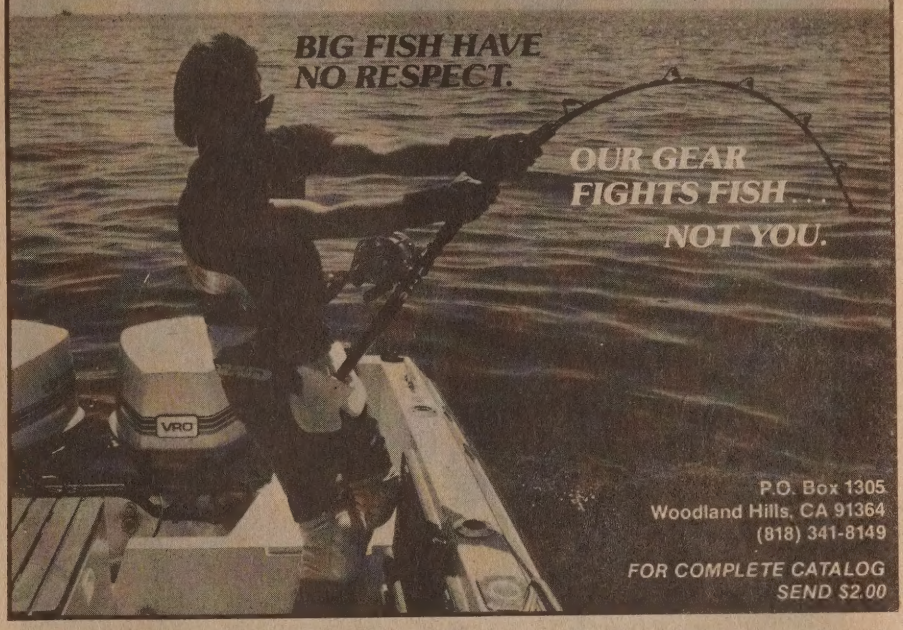

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TIPS FOR SHARKS

by Pete Barrett

An interesting side benefit to the Fishing Workshops The Fisherman hosts throughout the year is the chance to swap fishing ideas with readers who attend these programs and also from talks wih readers at boat shows and sport shows. I've picked up many excellent ideas that helped me bring more fish to the boat and I'd like to share some of the tips recently suggested by readers.

Styrofoam Floats. Most sharkers drift while chumming and fish three baits, two of which are suspended from floats attached to the line to keep one bait at 100 feet, the other at 60 feet. Balloons, styrofoam and balsa floats are used depending on the angler's prefernce. Balloons can be a pain to use, although many shark fishermen do prefer them. The idea of blowing up a balloon on a rough day with chum smell in the air is not too appealing to most of us.

Styrofoam floats are preferred by most shark anglers and they do work well under most conditions, but styrofoam floats have a tendency to roll off the line on rough days and separate from the line. Styrofoam floats are usually placed on the line by cutting small slits in the foam, wrapping the line around the foam block and then pulling the line tight so the line cuts partly into the float.

Gary Williams showed me a way to prevent the floats from rolling off the line. He cuts a small hole in the center of the float, passes a loop of line through the float and then doubles the loop back over the float. When the line is pulled tight, the float is trapped in the loop and cannot come unwrapped. It works perfectly and the float cuts into two pieces when a shark yanks on the bait.

Balsa Floats. Ecology minded shark fishermen have preferred the red and white painted balsa floats. Unlike styrofoam blocks, the balsa floats do not break away from the line and therefore, leave no "trash" in the water after the shark hits. The fishing line passes through the center of the float and slides up and down the line while playing a shark.

Rubber band stoppers are usually tied onto the line to prevent the float from sliding while holding a bait at a certain level in the chum slick. The problem here is that the rubber band can get stuck inside the float and will not detach to free the line. The shark feels this resistance as he picks up the bait.

John Welsh uses a better idea. He wraps the rubber band around the **outside** of the float, picks up a small loop of line and doubles it back and under the rubber band. The rubber band firmly holds the line so the float doesn't slide, yet when a shark hits, the line is easily popped free of the rubber band and the float can then slide up the line as it's supposed to with no resistance felt by the shark.

Runoffs and Backlashes. Some sharks will hit like a Ferrari and keep right on going. They rip off line so fast from a reel that's in free spool that a backlash can occur and cause a lost fish from the massive tangle. Ed Reedy has a neat solution to the backlash problem.

Ed's anti-backlasher uses a length of bunji cord formed into a circle just large enough to slip over the side plate of the reels he uses. Two pieces of surgical tubing are slipped over the cord before the loop is closed with a ratchet type tie-down clip. The surgical tubing is folded back over itself to form a thick rubber friction pad that applies just enough tension on the line to prevent backlashes.

It's neat, effective and works very well. If you aren't sure how to make them, drop Ed Reedy a note at 5 Marlboro St., Morganville, NJ 07751 and ask him for more info.

Back-up Baits. One of the most exasperating moments in shark fishing occurs when a big mako, or any shark, swims up the slick right to the boat, passing all the baits you have in the water. Unless a bait is pre-rigged and ready to be dropped in front of this window shopper, the chance for a

hook-up may be gone in only a few seconds.

Rob Flynn says he rigs a bait and keeps it neatly tucked under the lid of his bait cooler in several loose coils. The leader is attached to a rod that is left in a rod holder, but out of the way of the usual three rods he fishes with. When a shark cruises so close to the boat, he grabs the bait from the cooler, tosses it to the shark and then grabs the rod to be ready to work the runoff which almost always occurs if the bait is dropped right in front of the shark.

Like the Boy Scouts, Rob feels that being prepared catches an extra 5 or 6 sharks each season for him. On some very slow days, Rob says the back-up bait has saved the day and paid off in the only shark of the day!

Window-Shoppers. Some sharks that cruise so close to the boat don't seem to want to eat. To help convince a shark that his offerings are like hors d'oeuvres at a cocktail party, Bill Degnen keeps a few chunks handy to toss out to cruising sharks.

"Sometimes a cruiser will sense something is not right with the hooked bait we try to feed to him and he'll ignore it. To get the shark's attention I toss a few chunks of mackerel or bunker in the water just ahead of the fish if I can see him, or just blindly in the slick if he's dropped out of sight. Often he'll come back and feed on these pieces and get in the mood to eat a hooked bait."

After tossing a few chunks and getting the shark to feed, Bill finally tries the hooked bait again and it usually works after the shark is "prepped" to feed.

Fish Phone. Sharks are attracted to sounds emitted in the water and sharkers have used everything from banging the side of the boat with fists to dropping cherry bombs in the chum slick to add sounds. Now there is a better way to add sound to the chum slick and save your hands and fingers at the same time.

The Fish Phone is a battery powered fish attractor that works on baitfish and larger game fish like sharks. It was first shown to me by Frank Murray at the tackle trade show last year in Dallas.

I bought one and am excited about the possibilities it offers. The O ring sealed body contains three dials that control volume, frequency and tone of the clicking sounds the little unit sends into the water.

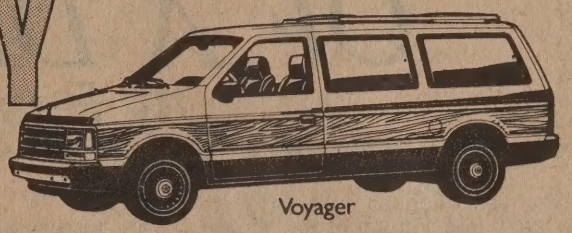
My Fish Phone is attached to a short cord and is placed near the chum bucket and has attracted pilot fish, remoras and bluefish. While it is hard to determine how well it will do on sharks, scientists feel sounds play a great part in causing sharks to feed.

You can get more info on the Fish Phone from Murray Brothers, 207 East Blue Heron Blvd., Riviera Beach, FL 33404; (305) 845-1043.

Try these tips and you may just hook up with that monster mako you've been waiting for. Good sharking!

ON LAND, IT'S

KEY



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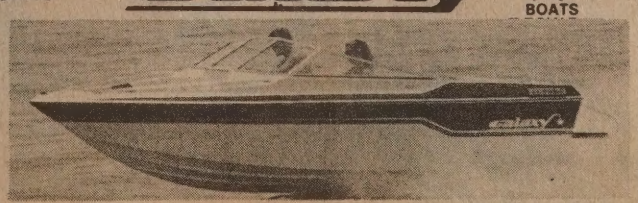

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THE VERSATILITY OF A DIAMOND

by Russ Wilson

Several years ago we were fortunate enough to join a group of well known outdoor scribes on a week long jaunt to the famous Florida Keys. Our itinerary included some flats fishing for bones, permit, barracuda and tarpon and a couple days of probing the offshore waters for billfish and reef species.

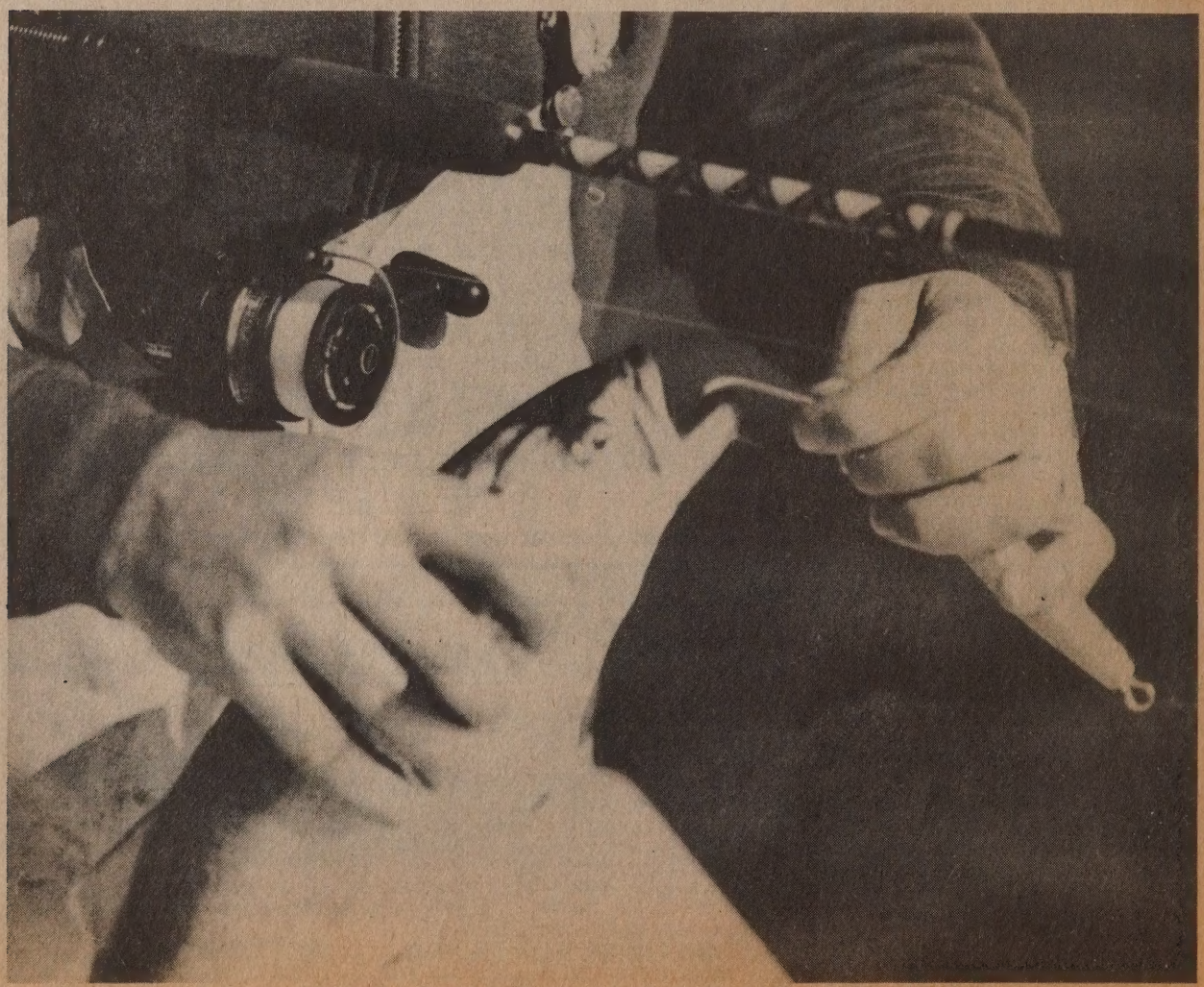
I was probably the least experienced tropical water angler of the group and yet, because I had the foresight to carry a small tackle box stuffed with an assortment of diamond jigs and bucktails, I managed to keep up with others who were much more familiar with that particular fishing.

My success was directly attributed to the diamond jig. Since that trip I've made it a point to carry some of these fish-catching lures whenever fishing local or far off waters where I know the target will be bigger fish that eat smaller fish.

The diamond jig is universal in its appeal to predatory species in fresh or salt waters of the world. We've had sea bass, blackfish and ling jump all over a diamond jig and yet each of these good to eat fish are considered meat eaters.

New Englanders use heavy duty diamonds to tackle huge codfish and pollock which inhabit the offshore depths and will often forego natural baits in favor of the diamonds. Anglers throughout the New York Bight have learned that bonito, false albacore and school size bluefin or yellowfin tuna will smash a diamond while ignoring many of the more well known offerings.

And, most everyone who has fished inshore waters has, at one time or another, been treated to some fast and furious bluefish action when working a diamond on top or down deep. Striped bass, weakfish and even fluke have fallen victim to our diamond jigs. I could continue, but



A diamond jig with a single hook works best with fast action fishing for blues.

this gives some idea as to the effectiveness of diamond jigs.

Knowing a lure will catch fish and loading the cooler are an entirely different ball game. Some fishermen will use diamonds and never get the full benefit of their fish catching efficiency while others pay attention to the lure and use the lure in a way that makes fish want to eat.

Just last week, for instance, we were fishing a couple miles off the beach and were into the kind of bluefishing that you can never get enough of. The choppers, mostly 3 to 6 pounders, were in a feeding frenzy, attacking tightly packed schools of 3 to 5 inch rainfish. Gulls were vying for position over the blues and from a distance I could see the miniature depth charge splashes of bluefish busting into the hapless rainfish.

It was the ideal situation for casting a diamond jig and cranking it back near the surface at flank speed. Each cast produced a hit and if one fish got loose, another was on the jig within seconds. I have no idea how many blues I caught and released, but it was considerable.

Another boat with three anglers was on the scene and between fish I could see they weren't doing much catching. First they trolled, then they stopped to dunk baits. Totally unaware of what was happening around them, those unfortunate souls just kept circling the area and watched as the moment of fast paced excitement passed.

I'd guess they didn't know what to do and like many newcomers, they probably did not have tackle or lures on board to capitalize on what may have been the finest bluefishing they will find in an entire season.

There is no doubt that those blues could have been caught with most any bait or lure. When bluefish are in a killing frenzy they will climb all over anything that moves and isn't big enough to gobble them up first.

Another small boat owner who was on the scene had planned to drift for fluke and did not have tackle suitable for diamond jigging or casting. He did, however, have the common sense to lay out a pair of trolling outfits and was into fish constantly. His method may, or may not, have been as exciting as light tackling the blues, but it did put fish in the box. And that's what fishing is all about.

I've been accused of lots of stupid tactics, but not having enough tackle isn't one of them. Whenever the Marauder leaves the slip there is at least a couple of trolling rods tucked away in the gunnel holders. I also carry a pair of medium weight casting outfits rigged and ready to go. These are stashed in the stern rod holders where they can be reached instantly if needed.

As a rule, we'll rig the casting rods with a 2 ounce diamond jig or a bucktail. More often than not, the diamond jig gets first call and as a rule it will produce all the action this tired old body can handle.

A nice feature of the diamond jig is the fact that it can be worked on top, at mid-depths or on the bottom and, if given the right action, will catch fish at all levels.

You can drop the diamond to the bottom and using a fast retrieve crank it back to the surface at flank speed or just drop it down and work it gently until a hungry bluefish jumps on. Both methods will put fish in the cooler in a hurry.

Often blues, weakfish or striped bass will attack smaller baitfish such as spearing, sand eels or rainfish on or near the surface. You'll know when it is happening for the fish's prescence will be revealed by gulls diving into the water or by the telltale swirls made when the baitfish meets its doom. This kind of diamond jig fishing might be the most exciting you'll find for the fish are often too easy to catch.

If you've been using diamond jigs and not catching fish, try some of these proven techniques.

Top water blues, bass or weakfish are suckers for a diamond jig that is cast out and away from the boat and cranked back just beneath the surface at the depth where the fish are feeding.

When working a diamond at flank speed it pays to be prepared for arm-wrenching strikes. Saltwater fish do not nibble. The hits are for real and if you aren't alert, you chould very easily be stripped of your fishing rod when a large fish smacks the lure!

Diamond jigs are marketed in a variety of weights and can be purchased plain, with single or treble hooks, surgical tube tails, or covered in heat shrink tubing. I suggest buying a few of each so you have all bases covered. The 2 and 4 ounce sizes are virtually standard among inshore fishermen and will take weaks, blues, bass, bonito, false albacore and school size bluefin tuna.

When probing offshore depths you may find it beneficial to go to a heavier diamond. Codfish and pollock anglers often find it necessary to use jigs weighing 16 to 32 ounces when probing offshore wrecks. But, for all inshore and middle range fishing, you'll seldom find a need for more than 6 or 8 ounce diamonds. The 2 ounce (A27) or 4 ounce (A47) diamond jig will cover most situations. When purchasing jigs in this size you might opt for some that have a plain hook and others rigged with red, green, purple or yellow surgical tube tails.

There are several excellent companies currently marketing diamond jigs and most of the popular models will catch fish if they are used correctly. I will not recommend one company above another. A quick solution and one I suggest you follow, is to visit your local bait and tackle shop and ask the store owner for his or her recommendations.

Keep in mind that the diamond jig is a slightly heavier lure than you may be accustomed to using. Soft tip rods or any of the so-called "West Coast Action" rods are an excellent choice for casting lightweight plugs, small bucktails or when drift fishing with natural baits and a light sinker. They do not, however, measure up to the requirements of diamond jigging.

A reasonably stiff tip is needed to make the jig dance. Most rods that are built with a "parabolic" action have the rigidity throughout the entire blank that is necessary when diamond jigging.

We seldom use a rod longer than 7 feet and will often select a 6 or 6½ foot blank. The key is to pick a rod that has the capability of flexing when the jig is maniupulated while still retaining enough reserve power to muscle a hooked fish to the surface. Most of the major rod manufacturers and all custom rod builders who cater to saltwater fishermen offer rods that fit into this category at prices that won't put too large a dent in your wallet.

When shopping for a suitable rod or an unfinished blank, look for those that are rated to handle weights of up to a minimum of 2 or 3 ounces. As noted, steer clear of the soft tip or fast taper blanks for they are not designed for jigging and instead focus on the stiffer fiberglass, graphite or glass/graphite composition models.

The choice among reel models is staggering. Modern technology has made it possible for reel manufacturers to build lightweight casting or spinning mills with close tolerances at very modest prices. You can find a quality fast retrieve reel which has the necessary line capacity at most any tackle shop or sporting goods outlet for less than $50 and it will last for years if given proper care.

The retrieve ratio you select is important. Most savvy diamond jig fishermen use a reel that has at least a 5 to 1 gear ratio. There are models on the market that have 6 to 1 or even 7 to 1 also; but for practical purposes, I suggest a 4½ or 5 to 1 retrieve model in either conventional revolving spool or spinning, since it will allow you to

(Continued on next page.)

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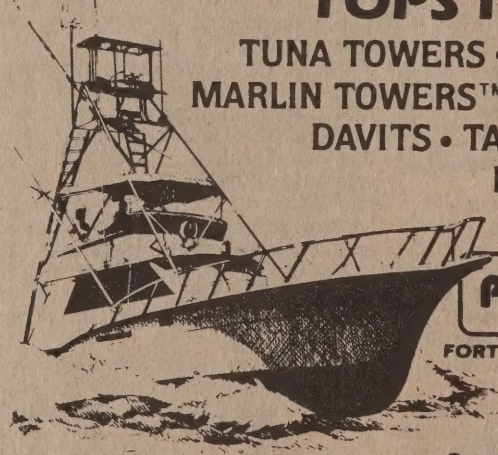

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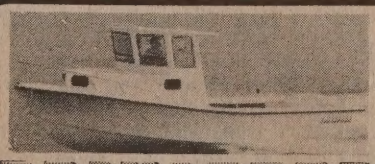

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crank in line when standing toe to toe with hard fighting game fish.

Some of the faster retrieve models will definitely allow you to work a diamond faster and will also provide a quicker pick-up of line. However, once a fish is hooked you'll find it is extremely difficult to turn the reel handle because the faster gear ratio is attempting to gather more line than the fish is willing to give.

Selecting the perfect rod and reel combination for diamond jigging is also a matter of personal choice and will depend on several variables. Party boat fishermen must, to avoid line breaks and tangles with other anglers, go to heavier tackle. Charter or private boat fishermen, on the other hand, can get away when using slightly lighter equipment since there are fewer anglers on board and the chances of incurring line tangles are minimized.

As an example, our diamond jigging outfits measure only 6½ feet and the reels we've been using are shown in the tackle catalogs as suitable for fresh or light saltwater use.

Seldom if ever do we use line heavier than 14 pound test and more often than not we'll opt for 10 or 12 pound test. A party boat fisherman would not stand a chance when using 10, 12 or 14 pound test and should use at least 20 pound test when diamond jigging.

We do not use a wire leader between the running line and lure. I think you'll find that although you may lose a few lures to bite-offs, you will get more hits when tying the lure direct.

Diamond jigs are generally attacked from the rear. Due to the length of the lure, the teeth of the fish do not come in contact with the line. Generally, when a bite off does occur, it is not the hooked fish that bites the line, but another attempting to steal the lure that is hanging from the mouth of the fish you've hooked.

In this particular situation a leader won't help and could be more trouble than it is worth because the stiffness of the leader can often change the action of the lure and its overall visibility will occasionally scare more fish than it attract.

A much better solution is to tie the diamond jig direct to the line using an improved clinch knot. This is a very strong connection and will not slip under pressure if tied correctly and drawn tight. Also, when using the improved clinch you'll find that the jig does not fold back upon the line and tangle, a common occurrence when using a short trace of leader or even a plain snap swivel.

The bluefish are in and they are attacking diamond jigs with a vengeance. It is not possible to find some exciting diamond jigging most anywhere from Virginia to New England waters. Don't miss out on the fun: pick up a handful of diamonds and head for the shore. You will not be disappointed, I can guarantee.

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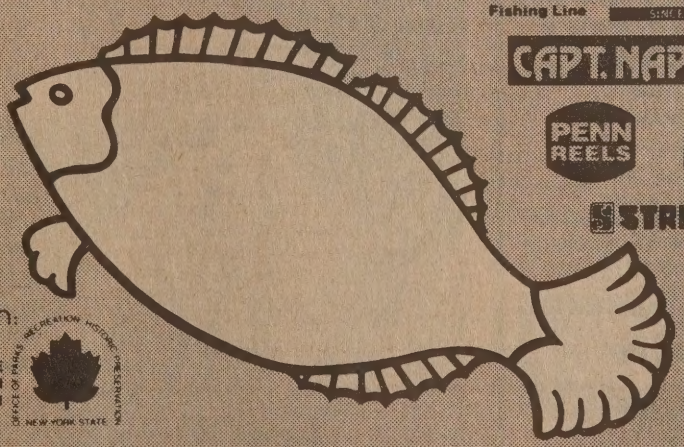

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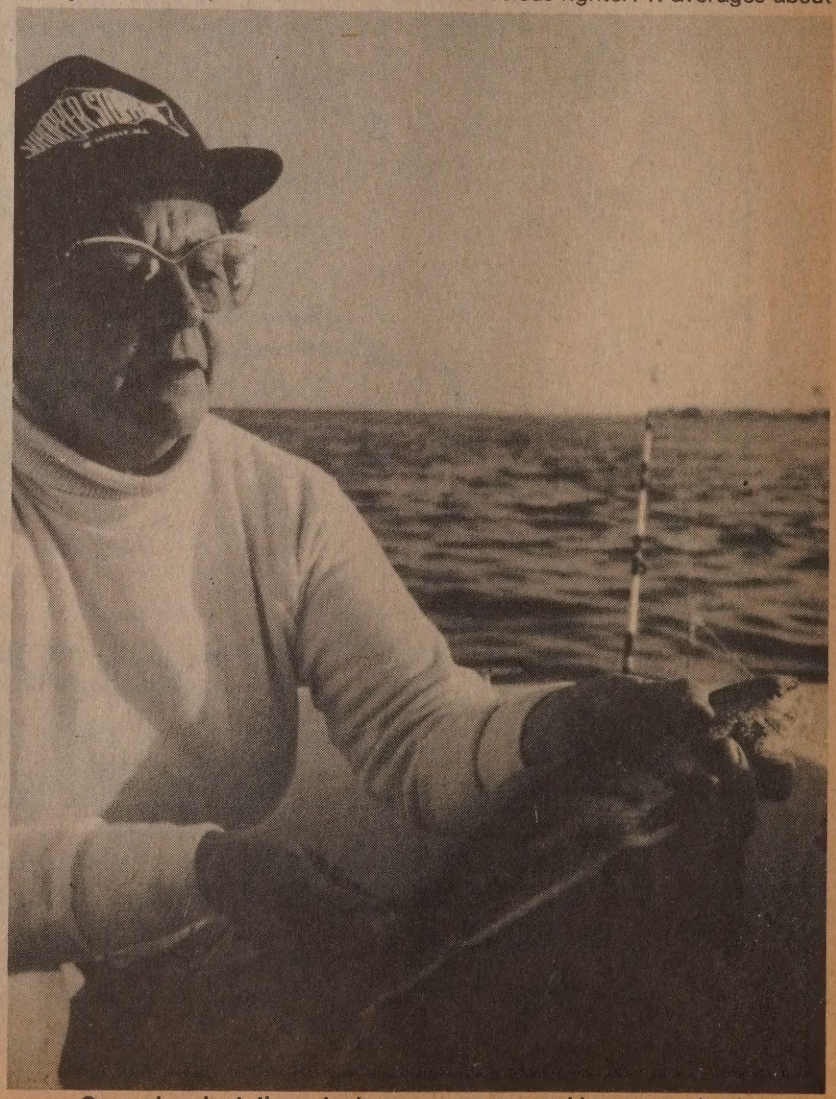
RETURN OF THE KINGFISH

—by William A. Muller—

Actually, one needs to be cautious about the use of the name "kingfish," because down South they have a fish that is an open water game fish and grows much bigger. Down South they call the Northern kingfish "mullet." So, let's clarify and classify carefully. The return of the "northern kingfish" has been long awaited by many anglers with long memories, and there are signs that the fish is about to make a comeback in our waters.

The northern kingfish, **Menticirrhus saxatalis**, is a member of the family Sciaenidae, better known to most people as the saltwater drum fish. The name "drum" comes from the fact that males can vibrate a special muscle near the swim bladder causing a resonating sound that has been referred to by many as "drumming." Of course, our northern weakfish is in this family of fishes as are red and black drum, croakers, grunts, and spot. Species of this family are also known in the Pacific Ocean.

The northern kingfish is one of the smaller members of the group, yet is a tenacious fighter. It averages about



Once abundant, these tasty scrappers are making a comeback.

one pound, but fish of two and three pounds are regularly caught during certain times in the season. It is found in shallow water, close to shore, from Maine to Florida. The snout is rounded and it has a barbel under its lower jaw that aids in feeding. The dorsal fin has two parts and the first ray of the dorsal fin is high and spiny. The color is olive with variation from greenish to brownish. The fish's sides grade to silvery and then the belly is usually white. Darker bars run from the dorsal surface towards the mid-point of the sides and may be obvious or muted. The species lacks a swim bladder and, therefore, unlike many of its relatives, it cannot float or make a drumming noise. Thus, the fish spends a good deal of time feeding right on the bottom. Although it will rest on the bottom for long periods of time, it is a fast swimmer in quick bursts and is easily attracted by chumming.

Our enthusiasm about the return of the fish is based upon better and better catches made in our waters in recent years. Last year, these catches were also more consistent, coming from a number of different places. Second, fisheries biologists and local anglers in the vicinity of Chesapeake Bay have been reporting a rapid growth in the stock of the species. The best scientific thinking indicates that excess individuals are pushed by competition to migrate further and further north. Thus, as the stocks grow we should observe more and larger schools of kingfish in our waters.

During the last run of these fish that extended into the early 1960s, they were often taken while fishing for porgy and weakfish in Peconic Bay, while bottom fishing in other bays such as the Great South Bay, Moriches Bay, Jamaica Bay and Shinnecock Bay. In addition to being a common part of the bay fisherman's bag, these fish were at times the mainstay of the surf fisherman.

In the 1940s and 1950s, it wasn't unusual for surf rats to set out deliberately to catch kingfish. Armed with a surf rig made with a large three-way swivel, a long leadered 1/0 short shank hook, and a pyramid sinker they could expect anything from a striped bass to a weakfish to a kingfish. Squid and worms were the baits of choice. There weren't the hordes of blues in the wash that there are today, so delicate baits and light monofilament leaders didn't get a surf fisherman in trouble.

Techniques have to be adapted to the times because the circumstances of today's reality are different. For example, surf fishermen may be hard-pressed to seek the species because of bluefish and it isn't likely that a 7/0 hook baited with a chunk of bunker will take a kingfish. They have small mouths underneath the head and the fish isn't likely to exceed several pounds in weight. Many experienced anglers may suggest that small hooks such as #6 Chestertowns are best for them whether from a boat or beach, yet these light hooks would be a huge problem if a large fluke tiderunner weak, or striper were to take the sand worm. Therefore, the best approach may be a compromise between small size and strength to maximize the potential for catching any of the species available. Perhaps a 1/0 Sproat or O'Shaughnessy are better choices, and if the fisherman is really worried about big weaks, increase the size to a 3/0 hook.

The fish aren't likely to take a lure for a couple of reasons. First, the small mouth and second, the fact that they stay on the bottom. Boat fishermen can use a double hook rig; a two or three foot leader with a 3/0 or 5/0 hook about three feet over the sinker primed for weakfish and a 1/0 hook tied with a one foot leader right above the sinker for kingfish.

Chumming will draw kings to the boat if they are in your vicinity and generally there will be a good chance of them being around if you're fishing on sand bottom and catching weaks and/or porgies. Many fishermen prefer to fish for weaks on the drift which will cut down on your kingfish catches, but you'll catch your share as long as the drift isn't too fast.

Although some fish may make an early seasonal appearance and these fish may be large specimens, the best of the run will be a summer fishery. Often the kings will run north with the summer weaks, hitting our bays anywhere from late June to late July depending upon the abundance of the species and the progression of the seasons. They may hang on into October if the weather stays warm, but the best of the season for them is late July until the first real cold front sweeps across our area in September.

Incidentally, if you've never eaten kingfish, they are tasty. The flesh is white, firm and fillets are easily worked into most recipes. The taste is mild but delicious. Anything you'd do to weaks, sea bass, blackfish and porgies will work as a recipe for kings.

The best places to expect these fish will be New York Bight, Jamaica Bay and on and off in the other south bays. In Peconic Bays, the fish will be solid if the northward migration is strong.

The best bait is sand worm, but shedder crab and squid are excellent, too. Shedder crab is tough to come by around Long Island unless you keep them and wait for them to shed in a private holding pen. Clams are good too, but can be hard to keep on the hook, especially if bergalls and crabs are abundant.

Weakfish tackle will be ideal for these scrappy fish. They'll put up a good account of themselves on light spinning gear and bait casting equipment. They'll pull hard and swim in large circles as you work them to the boat. They always try to keep their snouts headed for the bottom and use their broad tail fins to push a lot of water.

I think you'll enjoy fishing for and catching northern kingfish.

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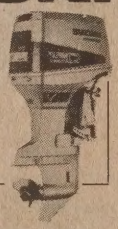

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TACKLING NORTH SHORE BLUES

by Brian Mulholland

Selecting tackle for a particular kind of fishing is one of those things that make for good arguments. Every fisherman has opinions about the proper rig for a given type of fishing. Some kinds can be handled by different setups; some fishing is associated with specific types of tackle.

Jigging for bluefish is one area where there's a pretty well standardized approach. Most south shore and east end fishermen gravitate to a conventional reel in the 3/0 to 4/0 size range, a 7 foot rod and line of not less than 30 pound test. Outfits like this are standard on party, charter and private boats from the West End to Montauk.

There are times when you may find that this tackle doesn't suit. It will overpower small bluefish, it's tiring and often less productive. A heavy outfit doesn't cast as well as a lighter outfit, and may not permit you to present a small jig or bait.

The area where anglers are most in need of different tackle is Long Island Sound. A fisherman working here is working in a very different environment than he would be out of Montauk, Captree or Sheepshead Bay.

The overriding differences between Sound fishing and that in the Ocean are water depth and boat noise. When ocean fishing for blues, the odds are that your jig will rarely touch bottom in less than 60 feet of water. If the bluefish are scarce, you may have to chase them and may well find yourself fishing in over 100 feet of water. Although the Sound does include deep water, most drops are made in relatively shallow depths. Much of the fishing here is done on shoals such as those outside Port Jefferson, where depths are more akin to those to Great South Bay than the Patchogue Grounds.

This environment puts a premium on the ability to cast well with light or mid-size jigs. Fishermen need to cast because the water column beneath the hull isn't deep enough to hold that many fish. You've got to be able to search the water around the hull as well as underneath. This is most noticeable when the fish are skittish about noise.

The result is that casting matters more on the Sound than it does on the south shore. ("More" is a relative thing. I've yet to find a party boat fishing situation where the ability to cast wasn't helpful.) The fish are generally smaller, so that casting gets done with 2 or 3 ounce jigs as opposed to the 4 ounce jigs frequently in use on the south shore.

The tackle that is best suited for this fishing is large baitcasting or small conventional casting gear. Fishermen with big reels are handicapped because they don't cast that well with a light payload. Spinning tackle casts well, but spinning reels

offer less line control, the rods with which they are associated do a poorer job of setting the hook and you can't feel a hit as the jig goes down. A big baitcaster is a good choice. An ocean casting reel in the size bracket of a small Sealine, the Newell 229, or Penn 970 is even better. The choice between a baitcaster and a Squidder or other conventional casting reels is really a choice between under 20 pound or over 20 pound line; this is mostly a matter of taste.

I've used a Newell 229F (290 yards of 20 pound line) for several years for bluefishing. This reel and other reels in this size bracket, offers an ease of use in casting that makes for better fishing. Line capacity is more than adequate. Perhaps you need a 3/0 or 4/0 reel out of Montauk, but not on the Sound. The increased casting finesse you get with the smaller reel is much more important. All of these reels lend themselves to deft underhanded casting, which is important in small, crowded cockpits.

A selection of surfcaster's tins as well as diamond jigs from 3/4 to 2 ounces should cover your needs for north shore blues. The tin squids come in handy because it's common to be fishing in very shallow water. The small jigs occasionally outproduce the bigger ones. With a good baitcasting or ocean casting outfit, the angler can lay out underhand casts of 20 yards without difficulty. In an uncrowded center console, the sky is the limit since overhand casting becomes feasible. If you want to try and search out weakfish under the blues, a tin squid will give better action at a slower retrieve rate than a diamond, and your chances of finding a tide-runner will be improved.

The rods that are appropriate for this kind of fishing are akin to a freshwater "flippin' stick." Rods marketed as heavy baitcasting rods, popping rods, or the lighter end of the PacificStik spectrum are nicely sized for this fishing. Avoid rods with pistol grips as they don't give you the leverage for steady underhanded casting and they don't give you the leverage for controlling mid-sized bluefish. Graphite is a nice bonus but any decent glass blank will do.

Reels with anti-backlash systems have a particular advantage in the Sound over those reels which lack them. With such a reel, you can easily decrease the backlash potential when and if you decide to fish after dark. On the south shore, jigging is confined to daylight. Night bluefishing on the south shore revolves almost exclusively around bait where no casting is involved. Many baitcasters permit you to dial in a bit more spool resistance, greatly reducing the risk of overrun.

Larger tackle comes into season in September and October when big blues suddenly appear in harbor areas. But most of the time this tackle is too much. Go light and you'll catch more fish and have more pleasure doing it.

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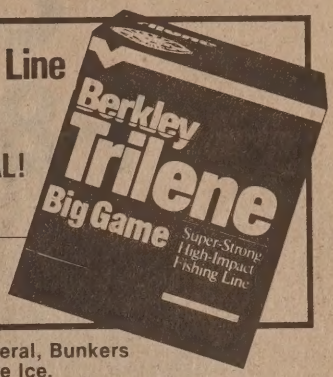

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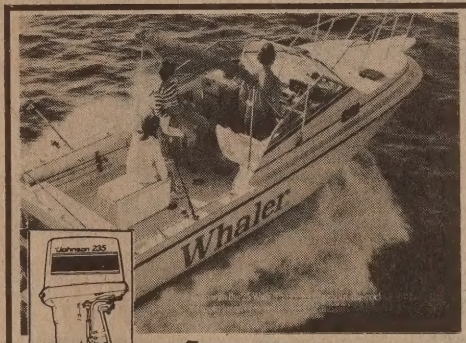

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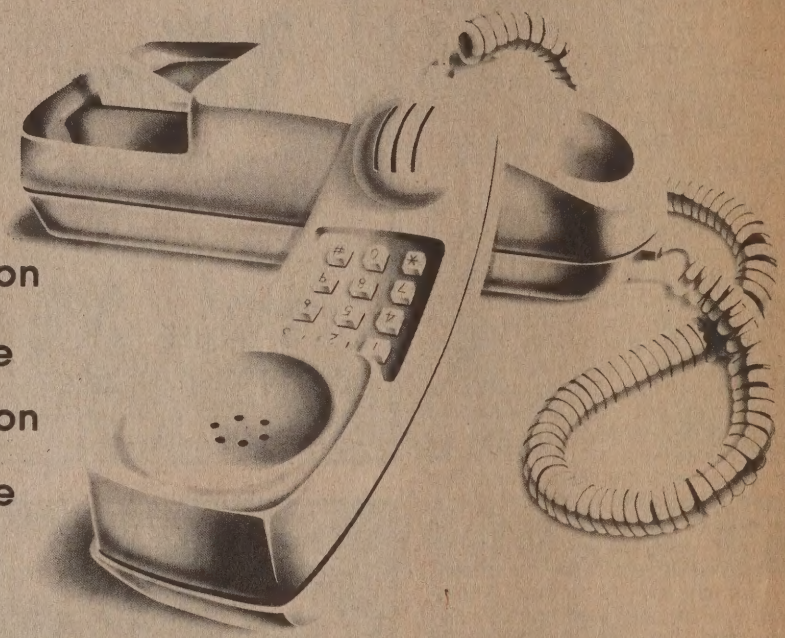

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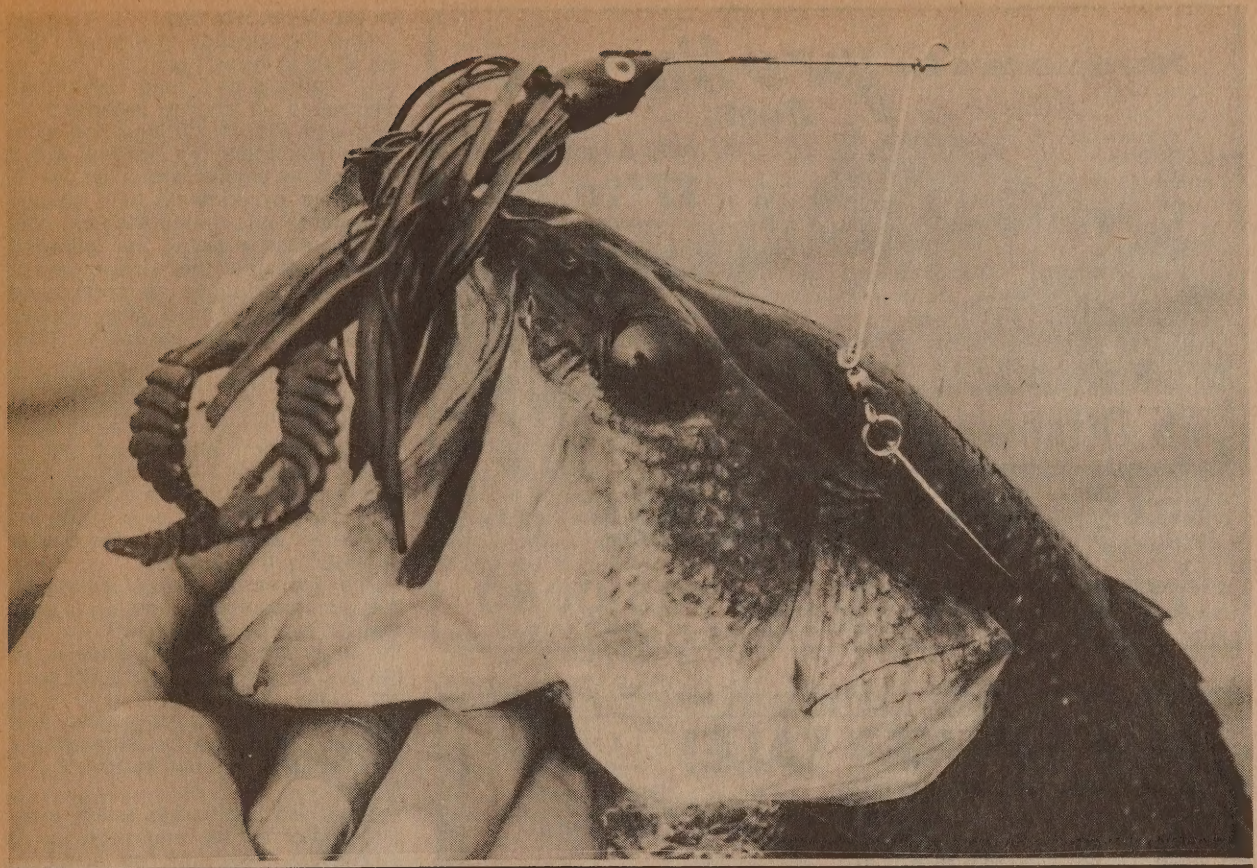

FANCY SPINNERBAITS

by Carl Buxbaum

Like many bass anglers, I'm a sucker for every clever and not so clever sales gimmick that lure manufacturers throw at us. As a result, I own boxes and boxes of contraptions touted to catch largemouths. Sometimes I think they're all needed (maybe it's just pride of ownership), but usually I stick with a few proven favorites which have earned my confidence. And it's pretty hard for a new entry to find a place among the elite of trusted lures.

The admission test to the elite is tough, because I rarely try a new item until the usual approaches have failed New lures are cast out and retrieved with little hope, in overworked water, where there are either no bass at all or they have lockjaw. Once in awhile, showing a fish something different triggers an assault, but that hardly ever leads to consistent action; so when it does, I know I've hit pay dirt. That's the test that made room for fancy plastic spinners in my arsenal.

Early experiences with soft plastic on spinnerbaits involved do-it-yourself modifications of old standards that resulted from experiments born of frustration. Years back, I discovered a fantastic honey hole where remarkably fat bigmouths seemed to congregate. Mostly, they were seduced into eating plastic worms that barely moved along the bottom, but when they were in a hot feeding mood, big, skirted spinnerbaits churning moderately at mid-depths were even more productive. From opening day in June through early August every trip produced at least one bass over 4 lbs., and I'd grown used to taking 5 pounders at regular intervals. There was one late afternoon in which 6 fish over 5 lbs. were caught and released within an hour and I was never skunked, no matter how the weather or water conditions varied.

One day in late August everything fell apart. Three hours of fishing, at the best time of day, failed to produce a largemouth—not even a runt, not so much as a tap. Had the bass wised up and posted sentries to sound the alarm at the sight of my canoe? Maybe all the released fish moved to a safe zone or learned that plastic worms and spinnerbaits cause indigestion. It was simply too hard to believe that such a great hotspot could go completely dead, and I started presenting different offerings, changing lures every few casts. Eventually, a 3½ pounder fell for a small, deep running crankbait on a slow retrieve—but that was it.

Completely frustrated, I decided on one last and desperate tactic before giving up. The remains of a plastic worm that had its head torn up from being yanked free of a snag was at my feet in the bottom of the boat. I pinched off the damaged section with my thumb nail, threaded the tail on to the hook of a 1/2 ounce, skirted spinnerbait and cast. Two slowish cranks after taking up slack line and the rig stopped: no jolt, no tug, it just stopped. Certain that a lure was about to be lost on a log, I was sorry about reflexively setting the hook and lowered the rod hoping the spinner/worm combo would slip free. But the line remained taut. Instead of going slack, it gradually moved right—I struck the fish hard for a serious fight, and the drag was slipping. As is often the case with husky bucketmouths, the brute got under the boat and the battle was mostly an in-close, give and take, tug of war. In hand, the bass was 21 inches long and 5½ pounds

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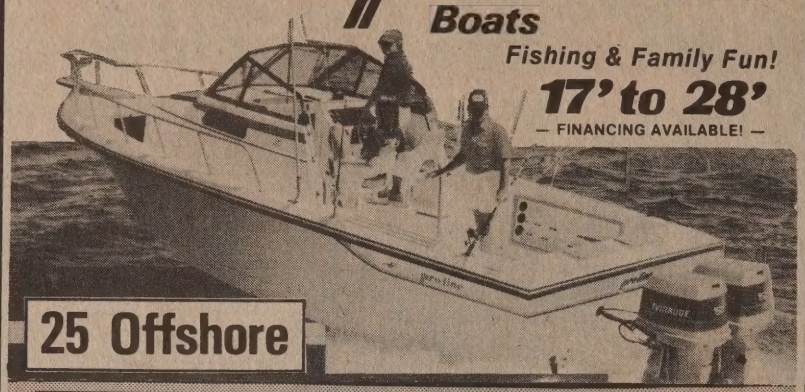
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Now the question of whether I had appealed to the very peculiar tastes or killer instincts of a queer fish or had discovered an angling breakthrough remained. But not for long. Ten more casts took 4 fish: the smallest was 2 lbs. and the biggest was a tad over 6.

Further experiments with souped up spinnerbaits during the next couple of seasons led to the following conclusions: first, they always were at least as productive as undoctored spinners, and second, they usually caught more bass, especially fatter ones.

Any explanation as to why this was so remains pure speculation; yet some speculations seem reasonable. A plastic worm, plastic grub tail, or plastic frog adds bulk to the bait. This increase in size fits the big fish, big baits theory and is a clue to the improvement experienced in the quality of largemouths caught.

The increased water resistance that accompanies an increase in size, though, may be more significant than the larger mass in itself. Because of the greater water resistance, the spinner sinks more slowly and runs relatively shallow on the retrieve. And a shallow runner can be retrieved at a crawling pace without fouling on the bottom.

Also, soft plastic has a very lively underwater action, and such life is particularly important on a slowly moving bait, with a blade that hardly rotates and a drooping skirt. I settled on the notion that standard spinners were fine for fast work on actively feeding largemouths, but that quality bass most often preferred slow, lively, beefy versions.

Over time, manufacturers of soft plastic worms have expanded their offerings with a host of contraptions that capitalize on their efficient production of plastic. The market is now flooded with ready-mades that are comparable, some nearly identical, to my homemade concoctions. I've tested many and found some real losers, some "no big deals,"and a few winners.

Let's look at some winners. First among these is the twister tail type grub rigged on a leadhead jig and clipped on a safety pin wire having a spinner blade mounted on top. Mister Twister may have been first with these, but near identical copies and look-alikes are now produced by most firms, including Mann's and Bass Pro Shops. They're great all-around lures: all season, all waters, all retrieves and for nearly any species (including, oddly enough, bullheads and carp, if you work the bottom real slow with small ones in dark colors). For fat largemouths use the biggest sizes you can get. Any color will work, at least sometimes. Two tone, brown and orange, and solid white twister tails have been the most reliable colors for me on Long Island waters. Go out with a pocket full of these spinners, nothing else and by the end of the day you'll swear that there's magic in

plastic.

A few years ago some anglers began to think that the success of these lures had to do with the fact that while standard spinnerbaits were unrealistic attractors, the twister tails resembled live baitfish, in addition to sporting attention getting blades. The next logical step in the evolution of more lethal lures, therefore, was to make the soft plastic tails look and act even more like preyfish. Mister Twister's Sassy Shad and various copy-cat productions hit the market with a splash that made them an instant, nationwide success. Yet, I still did better with earlier versions and my own fabrications, on local waters.

So when I first laid hands on the next modification, the Sassy Shiner, last year, I didn't expect much. Was I ever wrong. It's a true innovation, not just another trick to sucker fishermen.

I usually try new lures on days when I'm guiding someone around one of my favorite fishing holes. By focusing on known hotspots and setting up a partner with well tested lures, a good basis for comparison between the old and new is established.

On a hard fishing day, my wife couldn't get as much as a tap on any of our best baits, but I took 3 nice largemouths on a Sassy Shiner before we switched lures. Then she caught fish and I didn't—until we both used the latest in soft plastic and each took bass. The mystery and magic held all season. Though I never did raise a trophy with this lure, it's dynamite for sheer numbers of respectably sized largemouths.

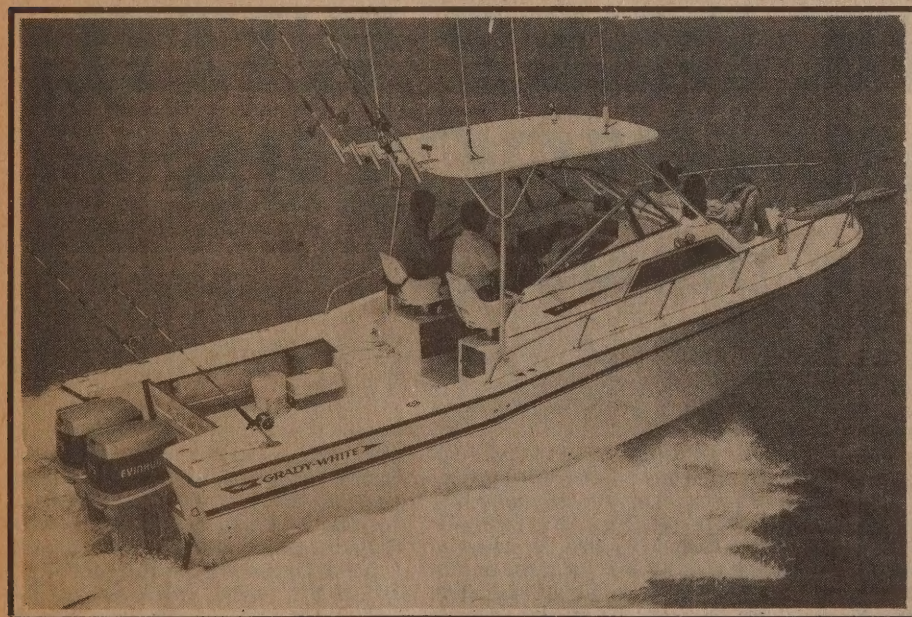
Not only is the Sassy Shiner a reliable day saver, it's also a more versatile spinnerbait. A hump in the plastic body reaches up and engulfs the hook point and barb, thus preventing the hook from snagging in weeds, except on a deliberate hook set or an accidental and thoughtless jerk of the rod. Handled right, it will glide through all but the thickest vegetation. Still, the soft plastic flap springs open without hesitation to expose the hook for rapid, precise setting when a bass hits. This feature is particularly valuable in working lily pads. The lure can be cast right atop the pads, where it lays on its side, slowly drawn to the edge of the canopy till it slips off and sinks. The strike usually comes on the drop. I've had extraordinary success with this technique.

Though the Sassy Shiner has been tested in all the colors I've learned to trust in spinnerbaits generally (including light, dark and neon hues), the pearl-like, white color is the consistent, hands-down winner. The margin of difference is inexplicably great.

Even more weedless, in fact probably the most weed resistant spinner ever made, is the fairly new Meppster. As the name implies, it's a joint venture production of Mepps, the largest and most respected of the in-line spinner makers, and Mister Twister, the firm that supplies the weedless hook and plastic tail that is joined to the spinner. The hook point is buried in the tail in a manner similar to the one used in the weedless rigging of a plastic worm. For fishermen who like to throw the kitchen sink at largemouths, a new version came out last year that has a living rubber skirt immediately ahead of the hook and trailer. Except for the in-line design, it's nearly identical to some of my homemade prototypes. Its fish getting power, in my experience, is also about the same.

However, the weedless quality of the Meppster makes it more versatile and it's ideal for situations in which other spinners hang up. It can be worked through the heaviest cover ordinarily reserved for Texas rigged worms. I like to work it with a slow, hopping retrieve along bottom—like a jig and pig with a bit of flash. It's no killer but you can get at those fishy spots too often avoided by anglers finding repeated snags bothersome.

The point is it pays to experiment, if you're willing to throw away the losers in order to discover a few special situation and even a couple of general winners. Some new lures really work and the Sassy Shiner is a rare all around winner. So if you want to improve your catch rate this season get a supply of them, or some of those close copies sure to show up everywhere. Pickerel love them, too.



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THINK DEEP WITH DOWNRIGGERS

by Dick Mermon

When your experience and innermost feelings strongly indicate the fish are in the location being fished, but no runoffs or knockdowns occur, it is time to do some serious "deep" thinking. The notion of changing fishing techniques, which have been successful through the years becomes a difficult task with many saltwater anglers. However, with "change," comes progress and most often for the best. This deep thinking is in reference to the employment of downriggers and saltwater fishing.

For years, Great Lakes anglers have utilized downriggers to place lures into thermocline depths which are known to control feeding activities of salmon and trout. Presently, only a few of the big lakes trolling anglers remain true to copper, monel or stainless steel wire line method and even the coated lead-core line scheme is slowly dwindling in popularity. All the charter skippers have equipped their sport fishing craft with several downriggers and use them with light tackle. They have come to realize it is the only "true depth control" mode of operation.

About 15 years ago, I had an opportunity to try a pair of "Big Jon" downriggers, using them along the south shore beaches to troll for striped bass and bluefish. However, I must confess, I never gave the equipment a fair chance to prove itself. The tried and true method of wire lining a bunker spoon, or a swimming lure, overshadowed any experimentation process of these downriggers. So, they fell by the wayside for a number of years, but presently I began trying out a single, hand-operated rig on my Boston Whaler and discovered not only new methods of presenting dead and live bait, but utilize it in the bay itself with swimming plugs around the bridges. The fulfillment I had recently was not due to this particular manufactured downrigger, but in the time it took I finally began to see how it worked.

Charter captain Sig Signorelli and his son Frank, ventured into this field of endeavor several years ago, but it was last season where the downrigger became highly effective for the number of times employed. One of these occasions was on a shark fishing trip that began uneventful, seemingly all efforts were fruitless by the ordinary techniques. The only activity for several hours came from the performances of the tiny feathered ballerinas called Mother-Carry-Chickens (Petrels) that danced on the water as if tiptoeing through the tulips. From the "Three Sea Sons" stern, Frank actively tossed sectioned menhaden which mingled with ground chum ozzing from a bobbing bucket that was cradled against the boat. The sea has been relatively flat with sufficient wind ripple and roll to

produce the needed shark activity, or even a bluefish bite-off, but nothing, absolutely zero happened all morning. However, we did notice the presence of squid, quite large in size, darting through the chum line for a lengthy period of time, but merely passed it off as part of the naturalness of the territory.

After watching these brownish colored marine celphalopods scoot in and out, Sig and I both remarked at the same time, "get a squid deep with the downrigger." While Frank uncoiled the wire leader on a prerigged squid, Sig attached the Cannon Marlin series downrigger to the boat's stern gunnel plate, on the port side. This way the bait would be directly below the chum and other two surface baits.

Since the boat's drift was reasonably fast, line attachment to the downrigger's release clip did not have to be extremely long, for the wire leader was already 15 feet in length. As a rule of thumb, a total of 25 foot line length (clip to bait length) is usually a starting measurement. One major factor in the use of downriggers and live or dead drifted bait which I learned from previous experience was the boat had to maintain some constant motion, either by a steady drift, or under power. A dead standstill, or an extremely slow amble is not the perfect time to use a downrigger. In such stillness, the attached bait becomes tangled about the cable or cannon ball. In an energetic boat drift, baits from two or three rods can be stacked one on top of the other, attached to the same cable. Now the depths can vary and the extension distances to the baits can also be modified along with size offerings and release clip tension.

Release clips have been a big question mark among anglers using downriggers, but it seems most prefer rubber band clips overall. Cannon has what they call an "Elasti-Clip," where tension release is applied by the amount of rubber bands affixed to the release clip. A heavy bait, or one that produces a strong pull requires more bands that a lighter one. These same rubber bands, if need be, can also be set up as "hook setters" on the strike, but most often are employed as holding devices. The angler must decide by trial and error method as to which is suitable for a non-detected strike, a hook-setter, or anything in-between.

While on the subject of detection, fishermen have become acquainted with a fact called "wire hum." It is nothing new, for the sound is also produced when wire line is trolled straight off the rod and reel, but the downrigger's hum comes from the stretched braided cable cutting through the water. Some anglers are convinced it spooks fish, while others respond with a more favorable aspect as actually attracting fish. No one has indeed proven or disproven this fact.

As for our fishless predicament, we did not worry about wire hum or bait distance, simply set the release clip and send the hook baited squid down to 60 feet to start. This was about half the distance to the bottom where we were fishing and would be a good starting point for at least 30 minutes. I If no strikes occurred during that period of time, the bait would then be placed at 90 feet for another 30 minutes and if no takers there, moved upwards, until we found someone at home. However, the cannon ball no more stopped at the 60 foot level when the squid bait was pulled from the release clip and the reel responded with a highly familar and pleasurable sound. Something had taken the offering and that something was a mako shark, weighing in at 133 pounds.

Captain Frank Signorelli sets up on a mako that grabbed a squid bait set at 60 feet.

There were several other strikes at that depth which proved to be bluefish, along with two other blue sharks, yet the other baits closer to the surface had never been touched. The downrigger's success proved there were fish around us, but the baits just never reached their feeding depths.

Many of the so-called die-hard local anglers have altered their schemes about downrigger fishing and found them to be money well invested. Once the word of their triumphs spread and how uncomplicated the riggers were to use, other areas of the country began converting from wire line to the boom, wire and ball method. Anglers along the east coast of Florida have found downriggers quite beneficial in trolling for kingfish, grouper, amberjack, dolphin and even billfish. But Florida's west coast trollers have been slow to respond. Most remain with diving planes of various sizes, but the fishermen who have switched to the downriggers are truly on top of the success list. In Hawaii, world records are being made with the help of downriggers using live, dead and cut baits, including oversized swimming lures and surface designed trolling skirts.

Freshwater anglers seem to try new techniques faster than saltwater fishermen. This is due to the secretiveness of a salty angler's happy outcome with something modern. Or, maybe, when a tackle item is different and its application changes the old, the angler does not want to look foolish if the item does not work the firs time, but with downrigger trolling or drifting, the scheme must be given a chance. Fish seen on top does not always indicate they are feeding there and quite often the bigger ones are down deep, allowing the little fish to do the dirty work of chasing the bait to them. Hence, it is time to begin thinking "deep."

FILLET A FLATFISH

by Russ Wilson

A lot of fishermen like to eat the fish they catch but are not too enthusiastic about the cleaning chores.

I've always been one who believes that it is a sin to waste fish or game. A long, long time ago, when my father first introduced me to the joy of fishing and hunting, I was taught that the primary reason for fishing and hunting was to supplement the family food stocks with fresh caught fish or game.

Of course, we fished for fun, but the end result of any trip was the superb meals that were derived from the fruits of our efforts. Most any fish that grabbed a bait or lure was considered a candidate for the frying pan and that included ling, fondly referred to as "sewer trout," croakers, fluke, weakfish, tautog, bluefish and striped bass.

My dad was a stickler when it came to food. He wasn't particularly fond of fish, and would insist that our catch be placed on ice and then filleted the minute we returned to the rental livery. He didn't want to eat the catch but wanted to be sure anyone who did enjoyed fresh fish at its best.

If Heaven forbid, he found a bone, the world heard about it. Even small freshwater fish such as crappie (calico bass back then), catfish, sunnies and bluegills were given the filleting treatment.

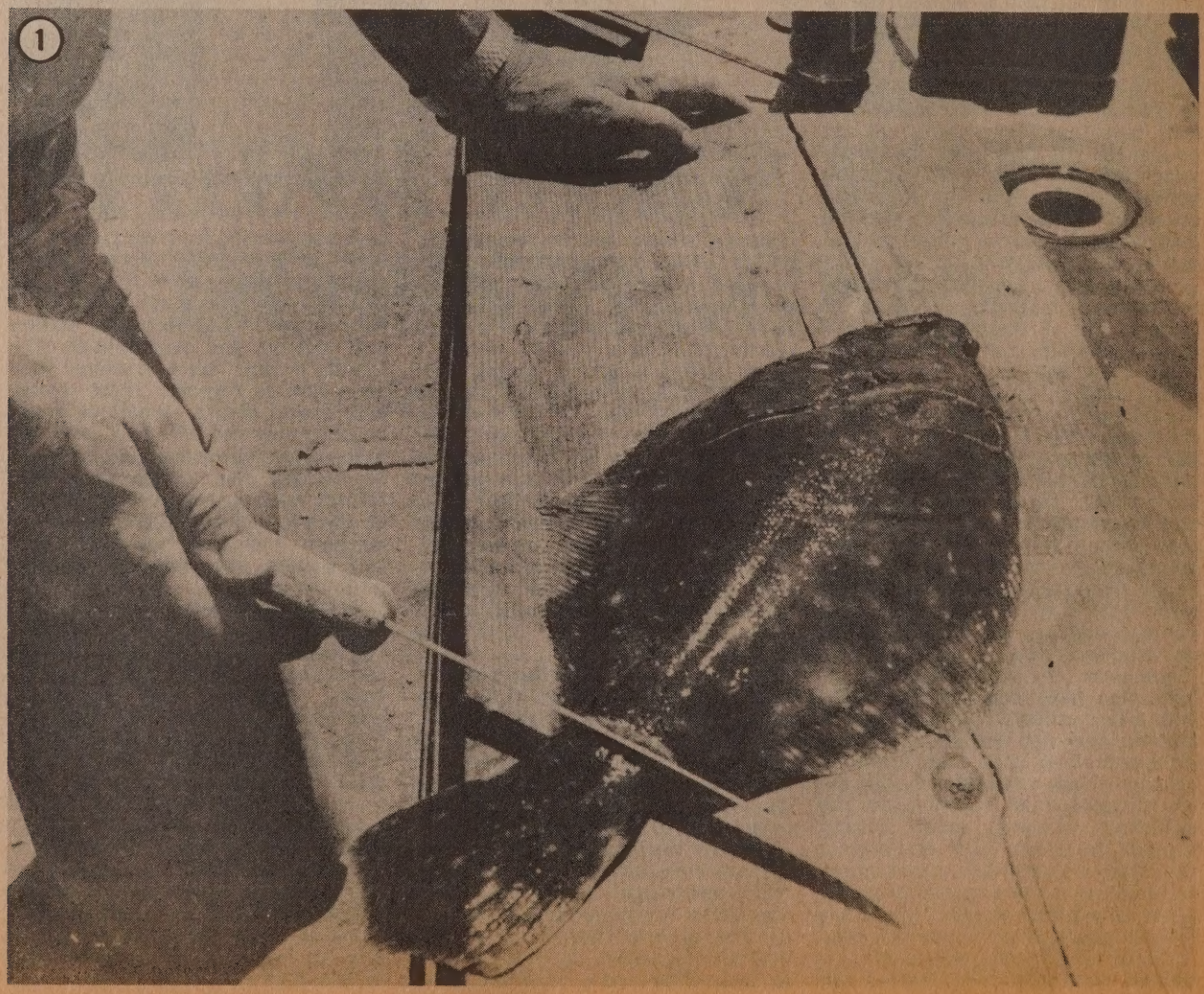
The key to being successful at filleting fish is having a knife that is up to the task. You do not want to try slicing a boneless fillet from a fluke with a cleaver.

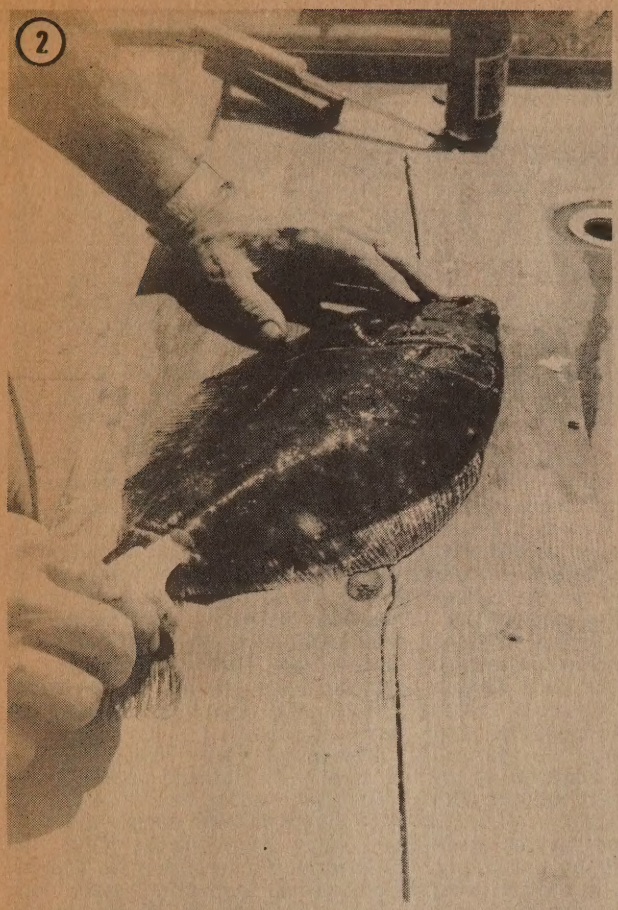
Fluke or summer flounder, unlike blues, weakfies or striped bass, which have a round body, are a flat bodied fish, more round than elongated. For this reason, you'll need a knife with a long blade that has some, but not too much flex.

The knife shown in the accompanying photographs has an 8 inch blade. This is, in our opinion, the ultimate choice for filleting fluke or winter flounder. The slender blade will slide easily between meat and bone, while retaining enough resilience to cut the meat cleanly from the bone structure.

Knives of this type are available at most tackle shops and sporting good outlets and can be purchased for less

(Continued on page 48.)

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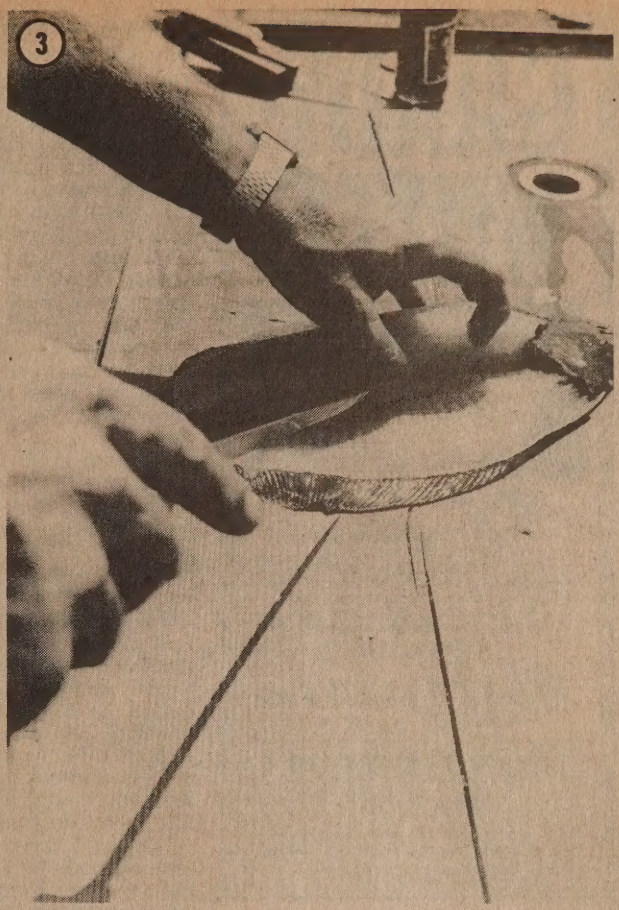
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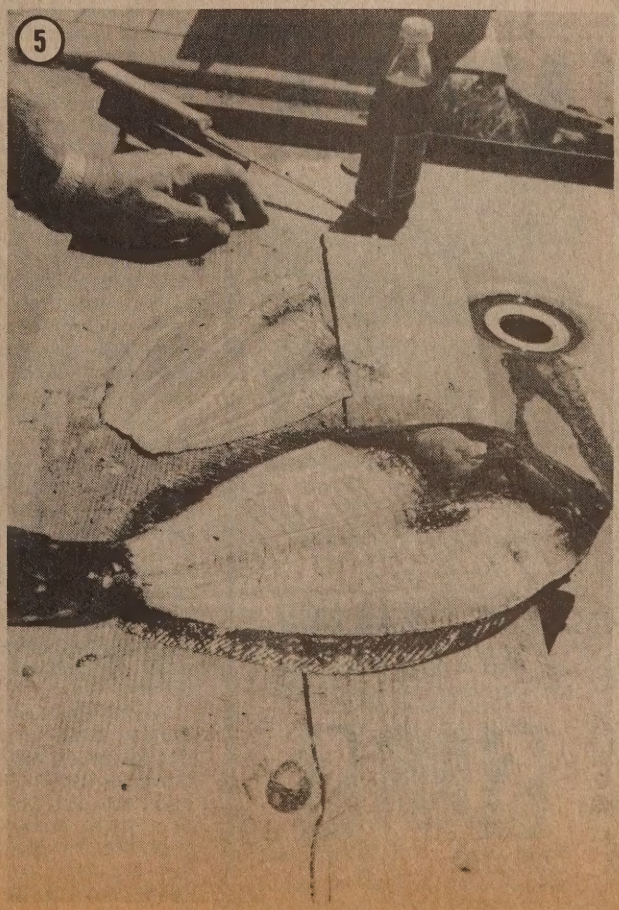
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than $10. A previous column dealt with knife selection, so I won't get into that again. Readers who may have missed that article are advised to check Issue #24, 1987.

I suggest anyone who is going to try filleting fish realize that it pays to keep knives clean, free of rust and sharp as a razor. If you do not know how to sharpen a knife, ask someone who does. And, after learning the proper technique, practice until you can sharpen your knife so it will shave the hair from your arm without cutting through the skin. You'll find it pays to carry a sharpening stone, ceramic or steel so you can keep the edge sharp while at the cleaning table.

A sharp knife is a whole lot less dangerous than a dull knife. I'd venture a guess that more people have made a rush visit to the local hospital to have a wound stiched after being cut with a dull blade than those who are treated due to cuts caused from keen edge cutting instruments.

A sharp blade will slice through meat and bone cleanly and without a lot of pressure on your part, while a dull or rusted blade will require more pressure to push through the meat and will often bounce off the meat and cut into a finger, hand or arm. At any rate, you'll need a sharp knife to fillet and then skin your catch.

Although there are several excellent methods for filleting flat bodied fish, the one shown in the following photographs is the best I've found. This is also the fastest way to fillet a fluke or winter flounder since it allows you to remove one whole side at a time. A quick fillet system such as this can be very useful among anglers who have spent a long day on the water and are eager to get their catch cleaned so they can head for home.

I prefer to fillet fish on a flat surface, and normally carry a two foot by two foot piece of exterior grade plywood in the back of my pick-up truck that is used specifically for cleaning and filleting fish. For me it is a fail proof system but as noted, I do have a truck and space is never a problem. Fishermen who operate from the family auto may find there isn't room to lug a heavy piece of plywood around.

Not to worry. Most shore area boat basins, marinas and launch sites have cleaning tables that are constructed of wood or metal. If you decide to use one of these free facilities I suggest you first wash and scrub the table to remove old fish scales, blood or sea gull droppings. I've yet to find a public fish cleaning table on which I'd want to prepare my family's fish dinner!

Once you've scrubbed away all the debris, clear a spot that is large enough to lay the fish out flat and still leave several inches of open space at head and tail. Using the photographs as a guide, completely fillet and skin each fish and place the skinned fillets into a plastic bag and get it on ice before starting up the next fish.

Photograph One: Start by making a diagonal cut from the top of the fish down through to the bottom fin, making sure not to cut through the backbone. Next, take the knife and cut through the meat from top to bottom near the tail of the fish.

Photograph Two: Using the cut you made at the tail as a guide, slide the knife blade into the fish so it passes along the backbone. Once you have the blade fully inserted into the fish, use firm pressure to force the blade through the flesh until it cuts through the fins that lay along the entire length of the fluke. This will allow you to lift one-half the fillet free of the bony structure and at the same time, will expose the backbone.

Photograph Three: This photo shows how to complete the removal of the boneless fillet. Again, using the backbone as a guide, push the tip of the blade into the flesh of the other half and, using the bony frame of the fish to guide the blade so it slices meat and not bone, cut through the fillet so the blade passes through the bottom fins. This will allow you to remove the entire half in the same manner used when lifting the original half.

Photograph Four: This is the one piece fillet as it should appear if you followed the technique I've described. All that remains is to remove the skin, and wash the boneless fillet. To remove the skin and keep the fillet intact and neat appearing, place your thumb nail at the tail section of the fillet and hold it securely while you force the blade of the knife between the meat and skin.

Removal of the skin will require you to use a sawing motion to force the knife blade from tail to front of the fillet. I can almost guarantee you it will take a couple tries before you have it mastered, but once you get the hang of holding the fillet in place with one hand and separating skin and meat with the other you'll find it is a much faster method for skinning most any kind of fish.

If you wish, you can substitute an ice pick or fork to hold the fillet in position while you remove the skin, but after you've gotten the hang of using your thumb you won't want to waste the time to use ice picks or forks.

Photograph Five: To remove the fillet from the belly, or white side, simply repeat the process that was used to fillet the back or dark side. You will immediately notice the white side is thinner than the back. Some fishermen prefer to remove the fillet from the belly first because it is thinner and not as easy to work with. This is strictly a matter of personal preference and once you learn the basic filleting technique you can decide for yourself which works best for you.

If you've been spending a lot of time at the cleaning table and are ending up with fillets that look as if they were hacked from the fish with an axe, try this system.

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CATSKILLS TROUT

by Dick Alley

Fortified by a couple of Tony Zad's favorite Southern Comfort Manhattans, consumed at Antrim Lodge the night before, I slept late, joined the Steve Pomazzis Jr. and Sr., and Tony at the Roscoe Diner for breakfast, told them I'd meet them at Cemetery Pool and stopped at The Little Store to pick up my fishing license.

Fifteen minutes later, I was stepping into the icy waters of Cemetery Pool, a long, clear, slow-moving stretch of water a few miles from the center of Roscoe, New York. I spotted the dimple of a rising trout closer to the far bank of the river and waded slowly to midstream before I began stripping line from the fly rod. I reached into one of my vest pockets and came out with a box of nymphs, and thought I heard a voice saying, "Hendrickson."

When fishing the most legendary trout stream in the northeast, where wade the ghosts of Zane Grey and Theodore Gordon and Sparse Gray Hackle, and many others of similar reputation, one never questions an unidentified word of advice, whether it comes as a hunch, a feeling, or only a fleeting thought. I plucked the Hendrickson Nymph from my fly box and tied it to the tippet.

I began casting, using more line than I normally would for nymphing, but the flow of the current was right and I was able to get a good long drift, feeding line before finally allowing the nymph to rise as the line completed its downstream swing. I cast a second and third time, all the while watching the trout rise. It appeared to be taking the fly on the way up, for the hatch was light, with only an occasional Caddis flying. I waded a few feet closer to the opposite bank to put myself a little closer to the feeding fish and cast again. The drift was good, and this time when the nymph began to rise from the depths, there was a sudden tug. I lifted the rod tip and it bent double with the feel of a solid trout. It wasn't a big one, maybe 12 or 13 inches long, but the fish fought well and hard, somewhat different from the freshly stocked trout found in most Conn. streams. I doubt I ever had as much fun playing a wild trout, but there it was again, that feeling that I was among the greats of trout fishing, a feeling that an unseen force guide my every move. As I was fishing the no-kill area, I'd left my net in the pick-up. When I'd played the scrappy trout in close, I reached down and grabbed it by the lower lip. I'd forgotten how sharp were the teeth on a foot-long wild trout and drew blood on my thumb for my trouble.

Good friends, good food and good fishing are hard to beat at any given time and place, but every so often that hidden emotion sneaks in to make a good trip even better.

Such was the experience last week on a trip to the famous trout streams of the Catskills. There are many streams that offer great trout fishing, less than a three hour ride from Westport, but were I to pick the most famous trout waters of the east, I would choose the rivers, Beaverkill and Willowemoc. These are the waters where a lover of trout fishing has the added advantage of fishing alongside the ghosts of famous fishermen past, who in a very friendly manner, haunt the rivers of the Catskills, or on a lucky day, to fish beside the likes of very much living legends, like Ernest Schwiebert and Lee Wulff.

The Willowemoc River enters the Beaverkill at Junction Pool and it was only a few miles upstream where I joined some other members of Nutmeg Chapter of Trout Unlimited, who held their weekend rally at Castaway Lodge, a little-known cluster of tiny cabins, only a few feet from the gin-clear waters of the Willowemoc.

On my arrival early Friday evening, most of the gang was out fishing, but club President, Tony Zadrovicz, and Pat Carroll III, were manning the hibachis, cooking up a fantastic barbecue of hamburgers, hot dogs and kielbasa. The menu for the entire weekend was posted in big bold letters on the front porch of Tony's cabin and I was already regretting that I had to be back for Sunday's deadline. There are many good reasons for joining Trout Unlimited, but in the Nutmeg Chapter, food and good company have to be a couple of the best such reasons. After chowing down, I walked the 50 feet or so through a small patch of woods to the bank of the Willowemoc. Brian Roach was fly fishing and immediately reached down, plucked an insect from the air, and showed me the biggest March Brown Mayfly I'd ever seen. Brian had had a couple of hits, but his son Lee, who preferred spinning, made to successive casts with a Super-Duper lure and caught and released two beautiful brown trout in as many casts. These were in addition to four that he'd released before my arrival.

Special fishing areas are just that in the rivers of the Catskills. Distributed liberally along the Beaverkill and the Willowemoc, fishing in these posted areas is restricted to artificial lures and flies. No live or dead bait is allowed. All fish must be returned to the water. Not that the entire area is No-Kill. There are sections of these rivers where trout can be creeled for dinner, so there's really no need to have to go home empty-handed.

Castaway Lodge is located only a couple of miles out of downtown Roscoe, New York, which bills itself as the trout capital of America. Aside from a modern diner, a couple of modern gas stations, and the influx of tourists, it's almost possible to step back in time in this area. Houses, what few of them there are, are mostly old, and worn, but neat and clean, with well kept lawns. The activity here is centered around fishing in the summer and hunting in the winter months. The "Little Store" sells fishing equipment and licenses, and lots of other needs and there's a grocery store, a tackle shop, a coffee shops and a couple of offices along the main drag.

Only a block away is the Antrim Lodge, an old, neat country inn, with a sizable bar and dining room downstairs and rooms upstairs. A large handwritten sign saying, "Welcome Fishermen," decorates the entryway here as do similar sings in the motels in the area. Upon entering the place, one immediately feels an atmosphere unlike that found in most restaurants.

This legendary fishing getaway is within easy driving distance of several major cities in the Northeast

It could be the unseen presence of the immortals of trout fishing. It could be the trout behind the bar, imposing in their size and stature. Fish talk is the main language spoken here and the walls are decorated with photos and mounts of giant trout and with pictures of trout fishermen I had heretofore only read about. The food is good and the service is great and after Tony Zad introduced me to one of his Southern Comfort Manhttans, it was even better.

The State of New York treaures its Beaverkill River and has designated much of it as a No-Kill area, where fishing can only be done with artificial lures or flies. There is ample parking along old Rte. 17, which runs for many miles along the various pools and rapids punctuating its colorful length. The river dips in and out of the beautiful hills and there is little commercialism along its banks. Only an occasional gas station is necessary, with the only additional scar on the beauty of the river being the many bridges of Rte. 17 itself.

This four-lane highway, however, is the main route to and from Roscoe, New York. Easiest way to this area from Fairfield County, is to take Rte. 7 to Danbury, pick up Rte. 84 west, cross the bridge in Newburgh, N.Y., for a modest 50 cents (one-way only) and then take 17K through a rolling, lightly-traveled countryside and then pick up Rt. 17 itself for the final run out to Roscoe, which is situated at Exit 94. With light traffic, the trip takes 2½ hours.

The scenic beauty of the mountains offers vistas that rival those in Vermont and New Hampshire. Spring or fall, the scenery is spectacular. Fishermen and tourists have a choice of lodging. The Antrim Lodge offers the country inn-style of lodging. A couple of motels can be found both in Roscoe and along old Route 17. Campgrounds are also available. In Roscoe itself, the Roscoe Campground, just a couple of miles outside of town on Old Rte. 17, is followed a couple of miles later by Twin Island Campground, which I stayed at a few years back. There are also some cabins like Castaway Lodge, where one can do his own cooking. Advance reservations are a necessity, especially for weekend stays.

New York State Fishing Licenses can be purchased at The Little Store, another hardware store in town, or at the Tackle Shop. The cost of a license ranges from $6.50 for a 3 day permit, to $22 for a seasonal non-resident license. Local business people are pleasant and fun to deal with. Tackle shops will pass on the latest information on the best flies to use, the river conditions, and what's hatching. if you forget some tackle, there's plenty available in town.

May and June are the best months for fishing these rivers, but with some decent early summer rains, the season extends well into July. I'm told it's also great in the fall of the year, but have never fished it at that time.

The setting is beautiful and the atmosphere just a little bit more than on most trout waters, but the thing that draws anglers back to these rivers again and again, is the knowledge that there are giant trout swimming these waters. Most every angler who has fished this river more than once has a story about the "one that got away," and the anglers who fish it often have the stories about the ones that didn't get away, those 18, 20 inch and bigger fish that are every trout anglers dream. Many have the pictures to prove it and after dark on a summer night, it's possible to go down by the river, sit back, close your eyes and listen to the slurping sounds of big trout feeding on insects in the darkness.

And every so often, you may hear the singing of a fly line sailing smoothly through the inky blackness of the night air and the splash of a mighty fish exploding from the depths to take a fly and landing noisily on the surface. You'll smell the aroma of fine tobacco smoke curling from a corn cob pipe and hear the conversation of a group of anglers, experts all, but when you open your eyes, no one is there. Fishing the mystical waters of the Catskills, is an experience unto itself. I think I'll be heading back just as soon as I can.

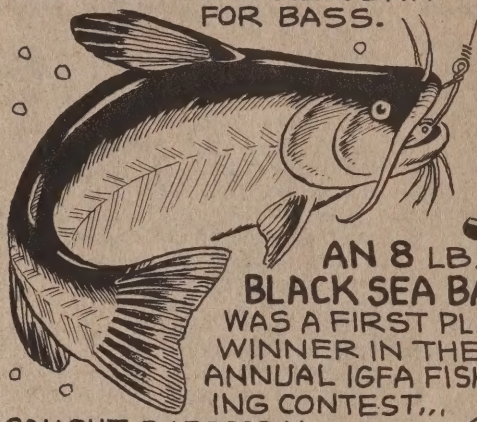
RECORD BREAKERS

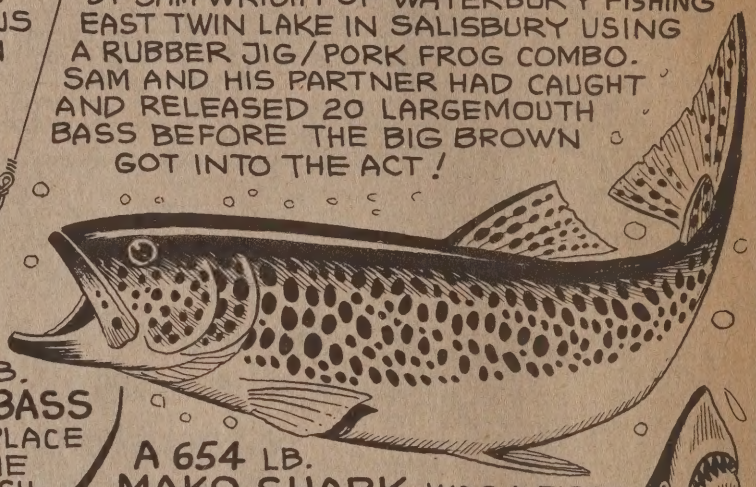
BY FRED GUARDINEER

TWO CONNECTICUT FRESHWATER/GAMEFISH RECORDS WERE BROKEN BY ANGLERS FISHING FOR BASS BUT NEITHER RECORD FISH WAS A BLACK BASS.

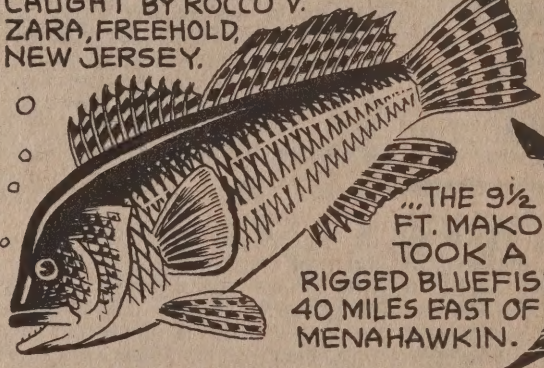
A 12 LB. 4 OZ. WHITE CATFISH IS THE NEW CONNECTICUT STATE RECORD FOR CATS. IT WAS LANDED BY RICHARD JUNOKUS FISHING GREAT HILL POND IN PORTLAND WHILE HE WAS CASTING A SPINNER BAIT FOR BASS.

A 16 LB. 14 OZ. BROWN TROUT IS THE NEW CONN. STATE RECORD FOR THIS SPECIES CAUGHT BY SAM WRIGHT OF WATERBURY FISHING EAST TWIN LAKE IN SALISBURY USING A RUBBER JIG/PORK FROG COMBO. SAM AND HIS PARTNER HAD CAUGHT AND RELEASED 20 LARGEMOUTH BASS BEFORE THE BIG BROWN GOT INTO THE ACT!





AN 8 LB. BLACK SEA BASS WAS A FIRST PLACE WINNER IN THE ANNUAL IGFA FISHING CONTEST... CAUGHT BY ROCCO V. ZARA, FREEHOLD, NEW JERSEY.



A 654 LB. MAKO SHARK WAS A FIRST PLACE WINNER IN THE NEW JERSEY SKILLFUL ANGLER PROGRAM AND WAS BOATED BY PETER MACKOWSKI OF WYKOFF FISHING ABOARD THE "LAST LADY" OUT OF HOFFMAN'S ANCHORAGE IN BRIELLE...

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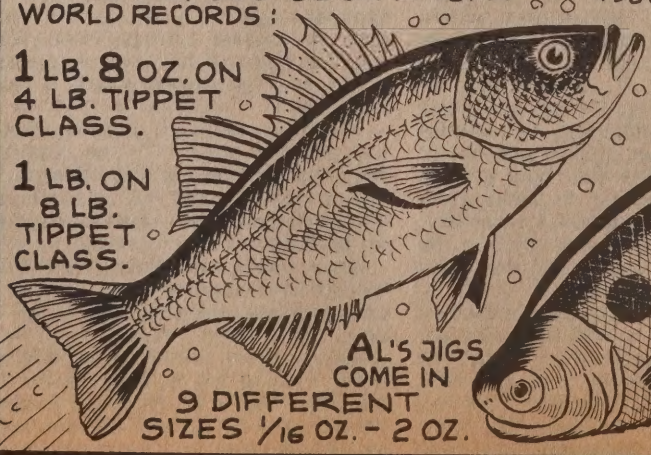
1 LB. ON 8 LB. TIPPET CLASS.



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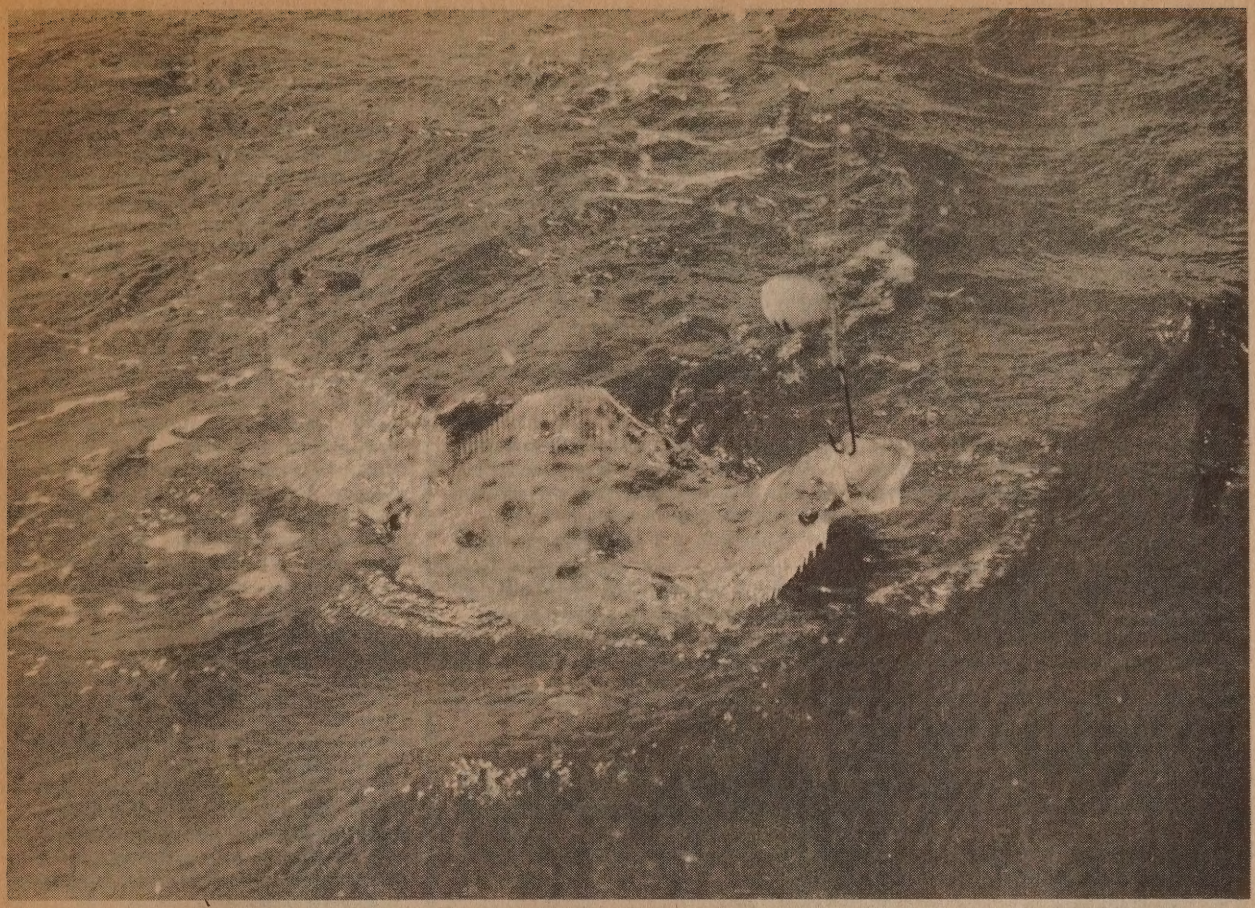

BETTER FLUKING

Part One—by Matt Ahern

I've never known a sinker bouncer who didn't enjoy fluke fishing.

True enough, some of us may prefer flounder over cod, or blackfish over sea bass, and so on, but when it comes to fluke, every sinker bouncer I know makes it a point to get into the act. One might say that fluke are indeed very popular with New York and New Jersey fishermen.

Why is this so? I believe several factors enter into this choice. It takes skill to consistently catch fluke. By no stretch of the imagination can fluke be called easy marks for the baited hook. The novice fluke fisherman soon discovers that a bit of finesse is required if he wishes to succeed. Fluke present a challenge to sinker bouncers, there's no question about it. Matching wits with these flatties hones one's fishing skill to a fine edge.

Another reason why fluke draw a multitude of anglers each summer is their ease of availability. Long hauls to the fishing grounds aren't necessary. Each summer day, shore fishermen catch their share of fluke from deep water creeks, canal bulkheads, piers, jetties and breakwaters. Fishermen in rented skiffs have little difficulty finding the fish, for in most areas fluke are caught but a short distance from the fishing station.

But probably the biggest inducement of all is that experienced fishermen know their chances of catching a 6 or 8 pounder and larger, are always good. They know the largest fluke is still down there waiting to be caught. Each summer, doormat fluke to 15 pounds and heavier are brought in by proud anglers.

And these large fluke aren't caught only by experienced fishermen. More than once have I seen a beginner take the pool aboard a party boat, much to the chagrin of the veteran angler.

All that any fluke is interested in is that bait be presented in a natural like manner. If it is, it will take it from there.

Of all the articles you will ever read on fluke fishing, no information is as important for successful fishing than that last paragraph. Reread it, cherish it and savor its full meaning. When you do this, you will have no trouble catching fluke.

When fishing bays and other sheltered areas, medium weight spinning tackle is ideal. When fishing where light sinkers can be used, some fishermen use light flounder outfits with success. I believe, though, that it is best to use the medium weight stuff. It's quite possible to hook a one pounder and follow it with one of 6 or 8 pounds—and this often in the most unlikely places.

When fishing around inlets, along beach fronts, and in the deeper ocean waters, and especially aboard party boats, I believe fishermen are better off using conventional tackle. A medium weight outfit such as used for blackfish, sea bass and porgies will do the job nicely.

Always use a matching reel for the type outfit you decide to use. For inshore fishing, fill the reel with 10/15 pound test mono, and for ocean fishing, use 20 pound test. Make certain your reel is of good construction (avoid those Hong Kong specials!) and all working parts operate

(Continued on next page.)

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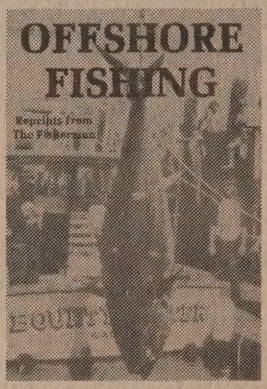

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While fishing, don't forget to check your reel's drag from time to time. You'd be surprised how many large fluke are lost each year due to drag mechanisms that bind at crucial moments. This is usually caused by encrusted sand or salt, but it matters not its cause, the results can be disastrous. Last summer while fishing near Shinnecock Inlet, I watched a nearby fisherman lose one of the largest fluke I'd seen in years—all because of a binding drag. A word to the wise is sufficient.

As with all bottom fishing, rigging for fluke is no problem. There is but one thing fishermen should keep in mind: shun the elaborate hardware. Forget the spinners, flashers, and beautiful beads. Watch the old time master fisherman for pointers. You won't see him using these gizmos. Those boys don't fool around. They take their fluke fishing seriously and because they do, it is common sense to employ such methods.

Most fluke fishermen use a Carlisle hook. These usually run in size from 3/0 to 5/0. The 3/0 is okay for inshore fishing where the average fluke is smaller than those in the ocean. If you should connect with a doormat when using this lighter hook, you'll find it strong enough to hold the fish. I think, though, that larger 5/0 should only be used when ocean fishing on the wrecks in late summer, for it is from these offshore areas that large fluke are found.

As the result of many years in the fishing game, I've come to the conclusion that fluke can be one of the most exasperating of fish. Fortunately, this doesn't apply to every fluke fishing trips. But I have found times when fluke will absolutely refuse to go near a bait that is anchored with one of those long-shanked Carlisle hooks. And not only that, I've also seen times when normally jigged rigs produced few, if any, fish. For some reason, these two conditions seem to go together.

If anyone had told me this before I personally found this to be so, I most likely would have looked at him with a jaundiced eye. But this was proven to me one summer day many years ago in the early 30s while party boat fishing off Riis Park in the Rockaways.

The party boat I was on that day was the old White Eagle out of Canarsie, skippered by that master fisherman, Connie Rank. (Any of you old-timers remember?) Fishing was slow, which was something unusual when fluke fishing those days...days when a daily catch of 40 or more fluke per fisherman was the expected thing.

My records show that until I was shown how to catch finicky fluke, I had but four fluke in my butter tub that day. Most of the other fishermen had a like amount, give or take one or two. But there was one fisherman in the stern who seemed to have little difficulty hooking fish after fish. I remember watching his every move

and wondering just what he was doing that made him so successful. Even then, I had enough sense to realize that this fisherman wasn't just "lucky." This old-timer was charming the fish by doing something no one else on board knew about. I was unaware of it at the time, of course, but I was witnessing my first master fisherman in action.

Lucky me—but not so lucky for the thousands of fluke that were to come my way over the years—this fisherman took compassion upon me. I suppose being a kid filled with awe helped. But anyway, this "wizard of the rod" motioned me to come and fish beside him.

I needed no second invitation. The first thing I was told to do was to get rid of the long-shanked Carlisle hook I was using. He gave me a 4/0 regular shanked Sproat hook, snelled to the usual three foot leader. Then he told me to forget the jigging method I had been using and to jig with no more than two inch lifts of the rod tip, which I suppose barely made the live killy twitch on bottom.

"Don't wait for a bite," he told me. "You won't get one anyway. All you'll feel is a little extra weight. Then get all the slack out of your line and hook the fish with a quick snap of your wrist. It's easy. Watch."

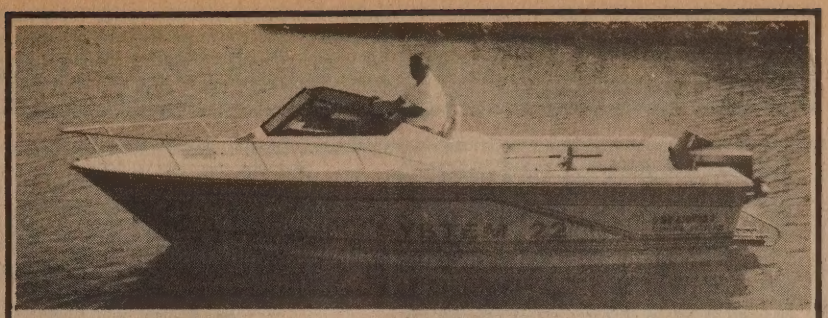
And he proceeded to do just that, hooking a good sized fluke with ease. It took me a few minutes to master the technique, but by gosh, it worked. And it still works today whenever the fish put on their finicky act. (Of course it does. Fish don't change their habits, else they would have perished along with the dodo.)

I believe the reason for this method's success lies in the use of a lighter, regular-shanked hook, such as the Sproat, rather than the heavier long-shanked Carlisle. No doubt this allows the killy freedom of movement, thereby attracting fluke. The old-timer used no "black magic," just some well thought over common sense, which is what all fish-producing techniques are based upon.

Regular jigging motions, or fast drifts, let's say, don't interest a fluke that is off its feed—at least, I don't think they would. But if food is right there and easy to grab with little effort on its part, our flat friend will take advantage of its opportunity.

It's the only explanation I've come up with. I've experimented with smaller Sproats (#1, for instance) on occasion, and the results are good, except that I've missed more fish than I normally would. I suppose the moral to this story is this: never fail to experiment. You'll be wrong most times, sure; but what if, like my kind-hearted old-timer aboard the White Eagle, you come up with something that makes all the effort worthwhile? In such ways are master fishermen made.

Next week we'll get into baits, jigging methods, and whatever else I can think of to put fluke in your bucket.



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MARY A

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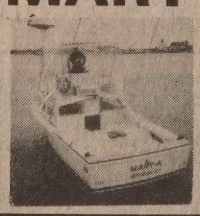

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East End REPORT
with Tom Schlichter

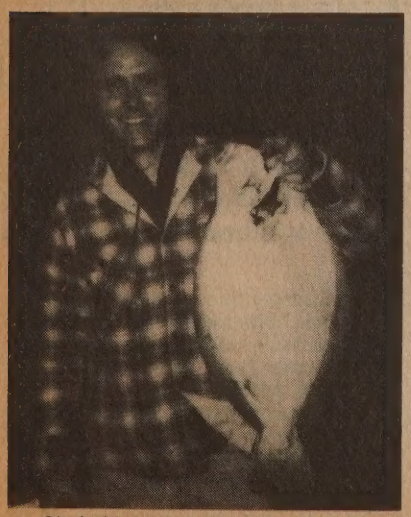
The entire Fisherman staff extends their congratulations to Grandma Mangan on the birth of her grandson, Nicholas Edward to Lorry's daughter and son-in-law, Kathy and Ken Horelik.

East End action was very good over the weekend and despite some fog on Saturday, heavy fog on Sunday and the fact that this was Father's Day weekend, quite a few anglers joined in the fun. Offshore, sharking was excellent and catches of cod seem to be picking up. Inshore, fluke and porgies are responding well to rising water temperatures while blackfish, blues, sea bass and stripers also proved cooperative.

MONTAUK

From **Captain's Cove Marina, Montauk**, Joan reports several boats scored well with bass this week. Leading the way was the **Marie III**, which landed 19 bass, including one keeper, on Tuesday. On Thursday, 20 blues, 8 bass (one legal) and 29 blackfish to 8 lbs. were hauled over the rail. Friday witnessed a catch of 53 blacks to 13.5 lbs., a 5 lb. fluke, and 4 short stripers. The **Venture** also got in on a little bass action, catching and releasing 9 on Tuesday and bringing one back to the dock.

Of the shark fishing, Joan informed us that Capt. Flowers of the boat



Chris Kunze decked this 6½ lb. fluke during a nighttime weakfish trip aboard the Sag Harbor based open boat, "Wilhelric II."

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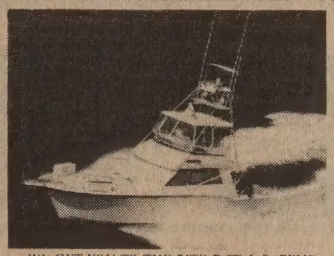

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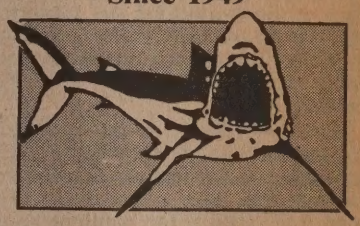
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TOMORROW'S CATCH

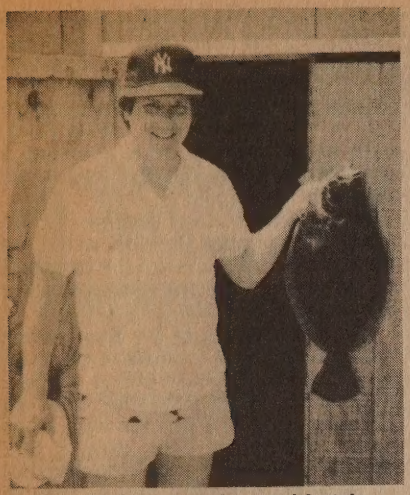
Mary A, connected wtih 6 blue sharks to 218 lbs. on Wednesday. On Friday, the score was 5 blue sharks to 150 lbs. All action was about 40 miles off the Point. The **Pices** also found some sharks this week, including an 87 lb. mako on Saturday. Quite a few blue sharks were caught and released and one thresher, estimated at 300 lbs., was dropped at boatside.

Bruce Keiffer's **Ebb Tide** had a 194 lb. mako for the Peter Moffett group on Friday. Some of the marina crew got a chance to fish aboard the **Jinx** during the week, traveling to the Grand Banks. Fishing was very good and we understand that the crew returned tired, but happy, with a cath of 75 to 100 cod to 35 lbs., and a few haddock.

The charter boat **My Mate** on Sunday ran to the 40 fathom line where it found 2 blue and 1 brown shark. All were tagged and released. The largest, a blue, was estimated at 200 lbs. The **Mistress Too** also connected with shark over the weekend, collecting a small mako and releasing many blues.

Chuck Cogswell of **Star Island Yacht Club** called in the results jof the big shark tournament this weekend. All told, this was the largest shark tourney ever held at Montauk, with 116 boats participating. Many small blues were caught both days and the minimum weight of 125 lbs. ensured that most were tagged and released. Fifteen makos were landed in the two day contest. Heaviest shark prize went to the **Just Mulli''n Around** for Carl Carlino's catch of a 452 lb. dusky. The **Lorri Jay** sailed off with the mako prize by weighing in a shark of 355 lbs. taken by Mike McPadden.

SHINNECOCK INLET



Ron Remkus used a squid strip to fool this 5¾ lb. fluke at Jessups on 6-18.

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In the blue shark division, **That's The Brakes**, owned by Sal Buda and skippered by Capt. Pat Buda, placed first with a 247 lber. landed by Dean Clark of Tournament Digest Magazine. In attendance at the tournament was marine biologist Wendelin Giebel of the NMFS who qualified the catches.

From the **Viking Fleet** we hear that catches of Cox's Ledge codfish are holding steady with anglers having a pick of 8 to 18 lb. fish and the pool winner usually topping the 20 lb. mark. The Viking Valley of the Giants trip had not yet returned as we went to press, but catches were expected to be very good. The last trip had to return early because anglers ran out of room to store all the fish they had taken. In the local waters, the half day fluke trips have been picking up steam with a lot of summer flounder in the 1 to 2 lb. class and an occasional 5 or 6 lber. mixed in to keep anglers on their toes.

At the **Montauk Marine Basin,** the **Kellyboat** weighed in a 204 lb. mako this week and the **Sea Kong** reported landing 9 blue sharks to 200 lbs. Inshore, the **Lazybones** worked the north rip where fluke were plentiful. The charter boat **Vivian** reported a mix of blues, blacks and cod south of the point.

Captain Dusty of the **Little Montauk** called to say that on Saturday, Irv Garner of Queens and Joey and Phil Westbrook, Brooklyn, combined to take 60 porgies, mostly large. These fish were taken between Plum Gut and Montauk at a point where boat traffic is so heavy that Capt. Dusty refers to the area as Waterway 195.

Captain Mike Pentivegna of **Pronto Charters**, passed on word that Joe Miksza and party from Jersey City landed 7 blue sharks to 125 lbs., tagging and releasing all but one. On Sunday, Capt. Paul Lahullier of the **4 Winds**, had a slow day fishing with Anthony Lomoviello. There were only two pickups all day and one blue shark was landed.

The **Julie III** reported a Sunday catch of 104 flatties to 2.5 lbs. and 6 sea bass for a charter led by Arti Occhio of New Rochelle. The **Lazy Bones** is fluking now with a 5 keeper to 1 short ratio in the fluke rip. Fish have been averaging about 4 lbs. and sand eels or squid strips have been the best baits.

From Captain Bill Ricca of the charter boat **Alyssa Ann**, we hear the blue shark fishing is very good. On Friday's charter, Dave Goellner and friends caught 18 to 170 lbs. Saturday witnessed Dave Borg and company landing 9 blue sharks to 200 lbs.

A call from T.J. at **Gone Fishing Marina**, revealed a fine mix of porgies, cod and blacks awaiting anglers. The charter boat **Caprice**, took Eric and Tom Donahue out on Friday and hit well with porgies to 2 lbs. and a mess of small sea bass. Father's Day night saw Chris, Joe, Al and Lou DeRicco connect with 6 trophy bass to 43 lbs. at Pollock Rip. On Wednesday, the **Fisherman II** took a Bayside group to Cox's Ledge where they collected 40 cod to 15 lbs. On Saturday, the boat returned to the ledge to pick 2 dozen more cod to 8 lbs. for Sal and Lenny Russo of Huntington. T.J. added that generally, fishing for fluke has been good near the Ruins and along the south side off of Ditch Plains and the radar station. A few anglers spotted tuna offshore, but apparently the fish weren't ready to bite just yet.

SOUTH FORK

From **Bayview Marine**, Sag Harbor, Chris Salb reported that William Fuller of New Jersey, rented a boat and fished the Cedar Point area taking the first good score of porgies so far this season. The fish took worms and clams and were all good sized. Buoy #6 was the location. Chris also offered that a lot of small blues are running around the bay and can be taken on jigs or surface poppers.

Thom, at **Speck's Bait and Tackle**, spoke this week of blues throughout most of Gardiner's and Peconic Bays. Fluke action seems to be on the rise and anglers working west of the bridge are still scoring well with Shinnecock Bay flatties. On Friday, Thom heard that an angler hooked up with a swordfish around the 35 fathom area. The fish broke off after a fight that lasted several hours.

A lot of bluefish inside Shinnecock Inlet and outside at the sea buoy is the

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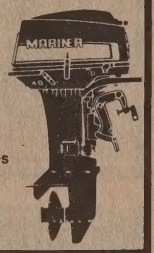

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THE FISHERMAN
All the news of fish in print.

Nine-year-old Mike Paster landed this 5½ lb. fluke in Fire Island Inlet. Subscriber photo.

word from **Altenkirch's Tackle**, on the bank of the Shinnecock Canal. Flounder are west of the bridge and seem especially good at buoy #19. Offshore, a few makos were taken in 150 to 170 feet of water. Mike Foreman of the **Sandra Jean** chunked a tuna and took a 140 lb. mako this weekend in 140 feet of water.

At **Mariner's Cove Marina**, Uncle Rock spoke of good flounder action on Sunday. Bloodworms are the best bait right now and the fish are averaging about a pound or so.

Capt. Artie Lach of the **Sag Harbor** based **Wilhelric II** reported a catch of 35 to 40 keeper fluke made at Gardiner's Island on Wednesday. The fish ranged from 3 to 5 pounds with Andy Petta taking the pool with a 5½ pounder. Thursday and Friday provided very good porgie action fishing locally near Cedar Point. Fares averaged 20 to 25 porgies per man. Saturday was slow at Gardiners but the day was salvaged by returning to Cedar Point. Artie asked that we remind customers that half fares will be in effect for ladies on Tuesdays and Sundays.

South Shore REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

Offshore fishing showed some signs of coming to life with several respectable makos taken over the weekend. In reality though, there were many, many anglers who spent the day tangling with bluefish rather than sharks. Next weekend looks like the offshore action could open up just in time for the annual Bay Shore Mako Tournament.

Bluefish seemed to be all over the ocean, particularly if you are out looking for sharks. Plenty of three to six pounders in 50 to 80 feet of water with the blues getting bigger the further off you go.

Inside the bays, fluke fishing really dominated by shorts this week but some very nice fish sprinkled in. A reminder that the Captree Fluke Derby is slated for this weekend and you can enter for the $500 first prize right up until 8AM Saturday morning at the Captree or Jones Beach Bait Shops.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Donna Kideris at **Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station** in **East Moriches** said that most of their customers are still concentrating on the flounder fishing which remains very good

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Martin Listl and Lou Leno bucktailed these 38 lb. stripers in Shinnecock Inlet back on 6-11. They were weighed at Molnar's Landing in Hampton Bays.

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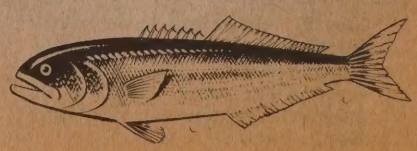
between buoys 29 and 32. Most boats are returning with anywhere from 40 to 100 flatties. There are a decent number of fluke in the bay with most rentals managing 8 or 10 keepers per boat. On exceptional catch was made by fluke sharpie Chris Steuven who put away 36 keepers up to 4 pounds.

Over at **Silly Lily Fishing Station** in **East Moriches**, Gary Grunseich said that flounder fishing continues good between buoys 33 and 39 in the deeper water. Fish range anywhere from ¾ on up to 2 pounds. Some very good fluke catches beginning to draw attention away from the flounder. Among them was a catch of 25 keepers made on Saturday by Eli Pepper and Fred Cramer. Best fluking is taking place between buoys 39 to 41 and northwest of 43. Also on Saturday, Matt and John Viol put away 6 fluke to 3½ pounds before switching over and taking a load of blues inside the bay. Gary was surprised at the number and quality of crabs for this early in the season. He said that on Sunday, Artie Misischia and his two nephews, Chris and Brian, needed less than 2 hours to take 3 dozen nice sized blue claws in Tuttle Cove out in front of the station.



GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Paul Graniello, speaking from **J&J Tackle** in **Patchogue**, said that crabbing has really picked up from local docks for those using traps and bait. A few small fluke also being picked from the bulkheads. Several customers continue to cash in on Moriches Bay flounder action. On Saturday, Jeff Mannheimer and Sal Iametti Jr. & Sr. put away 60 nice flounder at Buoy 29. They also had a 3 pound fluke in their catch. In the local bay, Paul described the fluking as a fair pick at Ocean Beach and added that there are a decent number of weakfish being taken at Ocean Beach as well as in West Channel. Boatmen have been reporting blues on the surface near Ocean Beach almost every evening. They are being taken on cast tins and plugs. A lot of small bass reportedly being trolled on wire line and umbrella rigs from the bridge to the inlet.

Over at **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale**, Audrey Canale reported that Dominic Pascareola connected with a 10½ pound weakfish on Father's Day. He used a Salty Dog/squid combo to take the tiderunner in West Channel. Audrey added that fluke action consists primarily of shorts and that some flounder continue to be picked from the Sore Thumb Pocket.

"A lot of fluke action but much of it concerns shorts", according to John Albanese at **Islander Canvas Bait and Tackle**. Bigger fish seem to be coming from the shallows north

Nick Polchynsky nailed this 5.5 lb. fluke on the Bay Shore open boat, "Laura Lee," back on May 31st.

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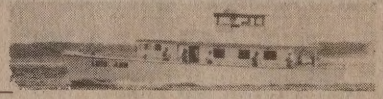

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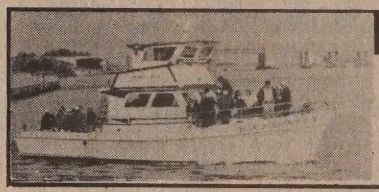

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of Sexton and West Islands rather than in the deeper channels. Several customers reported big blues taken on live or chunk bunker in the inlet area. Crabs now being taken from the dock at East Islip Marina.

Jim Romano at **Peppy's Bait and Tackle** in **East Islip** reported a catch of 20 keeper fluke to 3 pounds and a 10 pound blue for Larry, Troy, Harry and Jamie at Ocean Beach one day this past week. Toby Monaco weighed a 5 pound fluke taken west of the R.M. Bridge on a squid/sandeel combo on Saturday. Still some flounder populating the Sore Thumb Pocket. The father and son team of Fred and Ed Deutsch put 20 flatties aboard their boat 'Chili Pepper' on Saturday. Bluefish have been hit or miss at the inlet with fish taken one day and gone the next. Jim knew of a 160 pound mako taken by Walter Kuszelewicz on the 'Lady Joe'. He also knew that John Cavanaugh on the 'FJR and Me Too' had a small mako 10 miles east of the Virginia.

Capt. Neil Delanoy of the **Bay Shore** open boat **Laura Lee** said that there continues to be fluke action with many shorts but anywhere from 50 to 100 keepers per day being taken. Fishing is being done around Sexton and West Islands. Jimmy Flemming had 9 keepers and 14 shorts on one trip.

Carl Miller at **Smokey's Tackle Shop** in **Bay Shore** reported that the Bay Shore Tuna Club held their Fish-Off for the upcoming Mako Tournament. Doug Brewster led the way with a 160 pound blue shark. The Lady Joe had a 156 pound mako and the Wild Turkey, an 82 pound blue shark. Carl will be open at 4AM on both Saturday and Sunday to handle the needs of contest participants. He suggests calling ahead for bait orders. Aside from sharks, Carl knew of a few yellowfin tuna taken on the West Wall of the Canyon and said that several boatmen were reporting plenty of life in the vicinity of the Tower. Inshore, small blues are in the vicinity of the lighthouse and being taken on umbrella rigs or 007 jigs. Weakfish continue to be taken by persistent boatmen. On customer reported weakfish rolling all over the surface in West Channel on Thursday night. Some sea bass and fluke on the Fire Island reef and lots of bass talk going on. Some big fish being livelined at the Inlet. The private boat 'Wild Rose' reported a catch of 16 blues from 6 to 8 pounds 8 miles SE of the inlet in 60 feet of water.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Joseph II** used fair to describe this week's fluke activity. Each day sees from 40 to 80 keepers with lots of action provided by shorts but a few nice fish in the 3 to 5 pound range mixing in to spice things up. Night bluefishing was excellent on Saturday with over 700 choppers coming over the rail. Most were in the 3 to 6 pound class but there was a sprinkling of 10 to 12

Scot Bendersky and Tom Loudon used mackerel strips to take five fluke to 5.4 lbs. and eleven bluefish, 2 to 4 lbs., near the Fire Island Lighthouse back on 5-16. Subscriber photo.

pounders. Fishing was done west of the old F.I. Lightship buoy. Phil Sinni was hi-hook with 38 including a 12 pound pool fish. Billy and Lynn Montgomery teamed to take 54.

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Scotty 3** reported very good bluefishing on both Friday and Saturday nights with hi-hooks of 40 fish. Fish range anywhere from 4 to 12 pounds and were taken south of the Inlet. Fluking was good early in the week at Ocean Beach before grass moved in along with a wave of 6 to 10 inch fluke. Friday afternoon however provided good action with about 1/3 of the catch being keepers.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the open boat **Captree Queen II** spoke of plenty of fluke action through the weekend but noted a decline in the keeper ratio. He estimated 30 to 60 keepers being taken on the boat each day and noted that the larger fish seemed to be settled further east in the bay near Ocean Beach. The inlet had some nice sized fish in the 3-4 pound class scattered between the bridge and the mouth. A reminder that the Captree Queen will begin nighttime ocean blues beginning this Friday, 6/26/87.

Noel Kappauf at **Captree Bait and Tackle** reminded that the deadline for entering the Captree Fluke Derby is Saturday at 8AM. You can enter at either Captree or Jones Beach bait stations with fish eligible from private, charter, party boat or shore. First prize pays $500. Noel put a 6.14 pound blackfish on the scale for James Lally. It was taken aboard the open boat Capt. Leitch. Shore fishermen continue to pick fluke off of Fisherman's Walk with some keepers mixed in. Blackfish have petered out but some flounder still being taken at the Robert Moses and Jones Beach piers.

Capt. Ed Laske of the **Captree** charter boat **Dixie II** reported that he has been finding a better ratio of keepers to the east near Ocean Beach. John Kulkas of the Bronx, had the biggest fluke of the week, a 6 pound 2 ounce summer flattie.

Capt. Bob Schwartz of the **Captree** charter boat **Blue Albatross** said that a party from Bennett Fuel Oil took some nice fluke near the R.M. Bridge before finishing up Friday's trip on flounder at the Sore Thumb. On Saturday, the Hideaway Fishing Club enjoyed plenty of fluke action with Frank Torres taking the pool with a 4½ pounder. On Sunday, Dr. Hirsch and family had a fine day with Sore Thumb flounder, finishing up with 75 flatties.

George Stevenson at **Babylon Fishing Station** said that Tom Ciamillo, Dom Piazza, Terry Stevenson, Jim Theiling and Bill Macabe treked 46 miles to 192 feet of water aboard 'Ship of Fools' on Saturday. The run put them 10 miles short of the tower and in just the right spot to intercept a 162 pound mako. Their luck held through the ride home until blowing the tranny just inside the inlet. Concerning the fluke fishing, George reported that it is made up primarily of shorts. One customer reported landing 60 shorts without finding a keeper among them.

Capt. Ralph Green of the **Miss Babylon** reported on Sunday's fluke fishing. He said that 15 anglers landed over 400 fluke with 75 percent of the fish under the 14 inch minimum. Ralph has been working the State Channel. Jack Kennedy took the pool on both Thursday and Saturday's trips with fluke to 3½ pounds.

John Gattuso at **Augie's Tackle Shop** in **Babylon** reported a 458 pound thresher shark for Phil Bruckner on Saturday. Same day, John Ferrara

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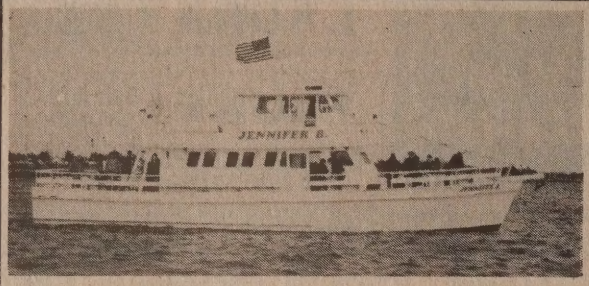

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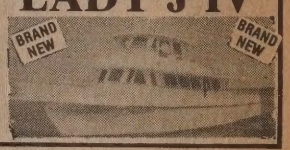

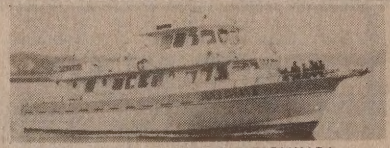

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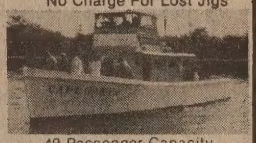

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landed one of the season's largest makos. The 422 pounder was taken east of the Virginia aboard the Shooting Star. Inshore, lots of short fluke around but few keepers. Still some flounder at the Sore Thumb and very small snappers starting to show at the docks. Lots of blue claw crabs also putting in an appearance.

Bob Labbate reported a catch of a dozen blue sharks and a 136 pound mako made aboard his 'Icatcher'. According to Mike Andreani of **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**, who relayed the info, Bob fished 140 degrees in 215 feet of water on Saturday. Bob also told Mike that they dropped a big mako as well. Mike weighed a 12 pound weakfish taken Thursday evening by Tom Brown in the Lighthouse area. Flounder were good through Wednesday at the Thumb but seemed to have petered out. Fluking consists of lots of shorts but there are plenty of blues outside from 60 feet of water on. Lots of crabs being taken at the Wellwood Avenue and Babylon Dock. Best catches are made in the early AM on traps and bait.

From **Charlie's Bait and Tackle** in **Lindenhurst**, Penny Schaefer reported flounder still holding up in the Thumb, fluke from Ocean Beach to the Inlet, though many are shorts. Some weakfish being taken in West Channel despite minimal effort and a few big bass from the R.M. Bridge to the Inlet on live bunker. Phil Lian used a bunker chunk to take a 19 pound 3 ounce blue at the inlet on Tuesday. On Wednesday, Jimmy Schaefer of Charlie's fame used a live bunker to take a 10.3 pound weak in West Channel. George Schneider nailed a 7 pound weak on the Miss Captree Thursday evening. Chris Poulon used a bunker to take a 10 pound blue near the RM Bridge on Saturday night and Meryl Klein

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returned from the Lighthouse area with an 11 pound blackfish taken aboard the 'Tigre' on Friday.

Bob Vitale at **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor** said that flounder continue to be taken at the Thumb and there are some big fish to be had in the vicinity of the Wantagh Bridge. Fluke, including many shorts, at the Lighthouse and R.M. Bridge and small blues being trolled from the Light to the inlet on umbrella rigs and wire. Some weakfish continue to be taken in West Channel on Jelly and sandworms and big bass and weaks being duped by live bunker near the Wantagh Bridge. Lots of small snappers already showing in the local creeks.

Speaking from **Edelman's** in **Farmingdale**, Frank Pristera reported on the results of Saturday's Hudson Angler's Annual Shark Tourney. Two hundred sixty boats competed for the top prize of $16,000. The contest was settled by a 410 pound tiger shark taken on the Sea Capital. Second place and $9,000 went to the 'Val-Jean' for a 330 pound mako. 'Sweet Revenge' returned with a 310 pound mako to earn $5,000. Eleven fish were entered in the contest including 9 makos. Ray Wittman's 'Night Owl' accounted for a 222 pound mako by Tony Neston and a 245 pounder for Ken Savino. Rich Molnar and Bob Gutowitz rounded out the crew.

West End REPORT
with Stu Miller

Fishing has been good this week both inside plus along the beaches and offshore as the summer season approaches. Flounder continue good to excellent with a good number of very big flounder being caught. Fluking action is torrid, with a decent number of keepers being culled. Pin bass starting to be taken inside, but blackfishing has slowed. Lots of small striped bass at the bridges. Nothing much to report on weakfish. Blues being trolled, jigged and baited in strong numbers. A couple of big sharks have been taken but way, way off the beach.

WEST END BAYS/ JONES INLET

Good action this week said Lon at **Wanser's Tackle** in Seaford. Decent fluking in Haunts and Goose Creeks, Black Banks and throughout the bay. Lots of shorts but some keepers on killies and sand eels. Flounder still obliging at W3 and Big M areas on worms and mussels. Some blues in

John Obrenski decked this fine looking 6 lb. fluke in Jones Inlet back on Mother's Day. Subscriber photo.

the bay on whole or chunk bunker at M3, Big M and Black Banks. Loads of blues roughly 8 miles south of Jones. A few weakfish taken off Ocean Beach and in Fire Island Inlet on sands and jelly worms. Lots of bass at the bridges and in the State Channel, mixed sizes.

Mike at **Causeway Tackle** in Wantagh noted the upturn of fluking all this past week, best at both sides of the high, all local. Best catches have been made by anglers using white bucktails, with or without bait. Tom and pal had 20 keepers in 90 minutes, while another customer bailed 25 keeper fluke fishing the entire day. Both catches were made in Reynolds amongst plenty of shorties. Flounder still a good item on the NE side of Big M on the ebb. Regular customer Joe had 55 flounder to 3 lbs. on Monday. Boats are averaging 5 to 15 flounder per, most fish big, with the south end of the bays holding the most fish. Sea bass now being caught at the bridges on squid and clam. Blackfish slowed this past week. Some makos caught 55 to 60 miles due south of the inlet and Mike knew of a 400 plus lb. tiger and a 607 lb. great white shark caught this week.

At **Merrick Tackle** in Bellmore, we heard of fluke caught by customers this week at Haunts and Swift Creek and W3 with squid-sand eel combos working best. Keeper ratio has been about 30 percent. Small blues zipping through the bay being taken on jigs or bait.

At **Garan's Tackle** in Merrick we learn that Mike Smith fishing on the **Captree Queen II** Thursday had a good catch of fluke including the pool winner. Local fluking action good through Sloop Channel, especially off the CG Station with a fair number of keepers being caught. Randy and Larry fishing with Klam Kuts, a new frozen clam bait had over 80 blackfish

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Jack Atwell boated this 10 lb. tiderunner east of the third Wantagh on a live bunker. The big weak was checked in at Ed's Fishing Station in Point Lookout.

at the T wreck Wednesday, fish up to 9 lbs.

Moving over to Freeport, the **Starstream II** had a great start for the year's bluefishing and has been enjoying very good catches both day and night at the Mud Hole. Fish have been running 4 to 8 lbs., jigging days, baiting and chumming at night, with high hooks up to 25 fish.

Captain Mike Danon of the **Captain Lou Fleet** says the flounder action has remained good on both boats, fish going to 2½ lbs. Mike said that in spite of this, he may be fluking by the weekend on at least one of the boats, and that would probably be the **CL VI**. Mike says to please call toward the end of the week to find out just what he's sailing for on the weekend.

Aboard the **Jennifer B**, high hooks ran from 9 to 13 fish this week on the half day trips. The skipper called the floundering excellent and said he had several huge flounder. Some sea bass and blackfish have been mixed in and he said the night bluefish trips have been ranging from poor to excellent depending on the night. On the flounder scene, Frank Kessler had a 2¼ lber., Pete Pappi a 2 lber., Chris Rutherford a 2 lber., Jim Squires, a 2 lber., Tom Augusto a 3 lber., Walt Pawluk 12 plus the pool, Spencer Thomas a 4 lb. 5 oz. flounder, Gina Boylan, 3 lbs. 8 oz., Joe Acosta, a 2¾ lber., Steve V. a 3 lb. 2 oz. flattie and it was 3 lbers. for Jim Gruebel and Rich Schwartz.

Sea Isle Sports had the store fluke outing last week, bagging a total of 19 keeper fluke in various areas along with tons of shorts. Ron says he has the 8th wonder of the world in the store this season four live bait tanks featuring one tank crammed with live bunker, possibly the only live bait tank setup in the free world. The other tanks are swarming with killies, fiddlers and greens.

It was a good week's fishing on the

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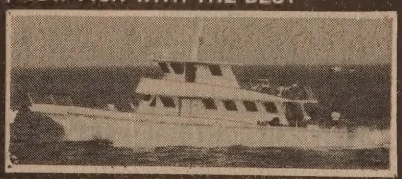

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Blue Fin Fleet with fluke being taken in State Channel, Jones Inlet and Reynolds with a slightly improved keeper ratio. Mimi Fertig bagged a 3½ lb. fluke. Three pound pool fish were taken by Zen Djonbalic and Debby Heitman. High hooks have been in the teens. Spearing and strip baits have been working best said the skipper. Excellent bluefishing Saturday night for a group from Poughkeepsie with over 200 blues over 10 lbs. caught SW of Jones on bait and chum. Craig Roberts had a 10 lber., w while Eric Bates had another 10 lbers. and was high hook with 23 choppers. A definite upswing in the week's catch, said Captain Sy.

From the **Freeport Boatmen's Association** we hear that the **Super Spray II** on its two half days trips daily has been steadily stacking up some good fluke catches with a 30 percent keeper ratio, with the keepers all being nice size. Sue Boyle had a 5 lb. pool winner, Paul Levine a 5½ lb. pool fish. Chick Ricca of North Bellmore, a 3½ lber. and Nick Ripuano a 3¾ lb. pool winner and 6 other keepers. The charter fleet enjoyed good local fluking also this week. Four to 6 lb. blues being trolled in 30 to 40 feet of water and offshore blues have

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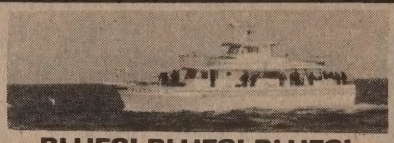

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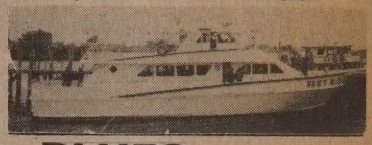

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6:30 AM DAILY
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been in the 7 to 9 lb. range. Lots of blues and some pollock on the deep water wrecks.

In nearby Point Lookout Captain Walt Specht of the **Miss Point Lookout II** termed the floundering fair all week on the half day boat, high hooks into the 20s. J.L. of Point Lookout had 25, regular Irv, 20, Steve Simpson 17. Walt said the floundering has been so good that he plans to stay with it for as long as possible. Night bluefishing trips have also been good, he said. Wednesday night's trip for 8 fares saw over 150 choppers caught. Thursday night, 16 hungries took 380 blues. Four members of the O'toole family had 81 while Vinnie Santose of East Meadow had 24. Friday and Saturday nights were strong also. Fish have been 3 to 8 lbs., just SE of Cholera.

Skipper Al Lindroth of the **Captain Al** had some super sea bassing Sunday. The ling has been tapering off. Three cod were part of Saturday's catch along with some porgies. In other words, strong bottom catches. However, due to popular demand, the skipper expects to very possibly be bluefishing by Thursday of this week. See ad for details. It might also be a good idea to call.

Aboard the charter boat **Marie III** it was all fluke trips this week with very good catches of 3 to 500 total fish a day, with a 10 to 30 percent keeper ratio and many 2 to 3 lbers. Sunday's action was best for the Bill O'Brien party. The Mike Eliot charter had 20 keeper fluke including a 5 lb. pool fish. Paul Woods had 15 keepers. There were many other customers that had 8 to 9 keepers a man, working Reynolds west to the ABB.

The two trip a day **Night Hawk** reports super flounder fishing early week. John and Al had 42 between

them. Regular Harold was satisfied with 37 flounder. Thursday and Friday slowed down some. Friday, Saturday and Sunday some good fluking filled out the flounder catches. Sunday was super with 30 to 50 total fluke per person with about a 15 percent keeper ratio. Dave Gavin was high hook with 10 keepers.

Ed's Fishing Station reports very good flounder action all week off the CG station and the Big M area. Pete Genna, Joe Nelson and Richard Sumter of Con Ed in the Bronx totaled 48 flounder and blackfish. One flattie was weighed in at the station at 3¾ lbs. Bait was sands and fiddlers. Best fluking has been in Reynolds at buoy 17. Bay blues periodically blitzing the inlets, while lots of big blues outside and sea bass off the Point Lookout Marina docks.

We hear from **Beckmann's Tackle** in Lynbrook the word is of loads of fluke with a 10 percent keeper ratio in Reynolds off the Lido golf course. The entire inlet area is loaded with fluke. Joe Magrone on Saturday bagged 12 keeper fluke and 40 midgets off the Magnolia Pier on a leadhead tipp□ed with spearing. Saturday Fred on his boat Jolly Fisherman had 22 keeper fluke out of 130 caught on sand eel-squid combos. Mixed flounder and fluke off the Jones Beach piers. Lots of activity, said Charlie.

NEW YORK BIGHT

At **Skippy's Tackle** in East Rockaway we learn of blues in and out of the back area including Bay Park. Loads of small bass at the bridges being caught and released. Plenty of fluke in Reynolds with some jumbos at the Tin Can grounds. Some weakfish off the jetties at night on jellies. A 608 lb. great white was caught Saturday by an angler by the name of Mimi on his 33 foot Egg. Loads of blues for the sharkers all this past week and flounder continue in the Jones area to 3½ lbs.

Over at **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** in Howard Beach Artie tells of lots of blues all over the bay on chunks with bigger fish slamming whole bunker. Lots of fluke all over also with a 50 percent keeper ratio on spearing and squid. A few blacks at the Marine pkwy bridge on fiddlers. Lots of small stripers throughout the bay. Carol Crowley took a 2¼ lb. fluke from the North Channel bridge. Artie of the shop nailed a 16½ lb. blue on bunker from the boat while Dad, Bob had to settle for a 14 lb. chopper caught on a chunk. They had 6 other blues 5 to 8 lbs., all taken at Ruffle Bar. □

Aboard the charter boat **Thermocline**, the skipper tells of good bluefishing throughout the week at the Tin Can and at Sandy Hook with fish to 14 lbs. belting A27s and cut bait. The boat still has several openings for the July 4th fireworks trip.

To the west in Sheepshead Bay we hear from the **Elsie K III** skipper Tom Paladino that customers have been

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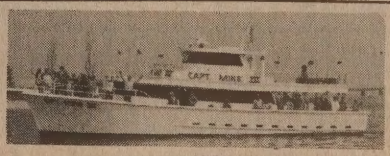

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OFF OF PELHAM RD., NEW ROCHELLE

having very good fluke action all week at Sandy Hook and off the Highlands with Tuesday and Sunday best. Sundays high hook was Bruce Simles of Brooklyn with 24 keepers to 4 lbs. Pool winner was Jerry Nackela of Brooklyn with a 4 lb. 6 oz. fluke. Lots of nice size fish.

From the **Zephyr** Capt. Butch tells of a good fluke week working the Jersey coast from Sandy Hook to the bridge plus local action. Fish ran to 6 lbs., 80 percent keepers. Any moving tide caught and Butch said a new school has moved up from the south. Fares were getting 3 to 5 keepers a man and high hooks have been in the low 20s for sharpies. Fish are averaging 2 to 3½ lbs. on spearing and sand eels.

Captain Walt of the **Flamingo III** told of Saturday's very good bluefishing offshore Seabright. The week day trips were good to excellent with fish turning up in different areas on different days, running 4 to 8 lbs. on diamonds.

Aboard the **America** which is fishing the channels, namely Coney Isand and Ambrose, Capt. George tells of William Ryonis and his 5 lb. fluke. Bill Gulley nailed a 4½ lber. while Milt Steinberg had a matching 4½ lber. A 4 lber. was taken Friday, another Saturday and on Sunday regular Russ nailed a 6 lber. Action has been on smelt and squid. The **America II** has been working from Sandy Hook to Cedars and Elberon with customers getting 7 to 20 keepers as high hook each day with a one-third keeper ratio.

A call from the **Pastime II** tells of very good Jersey shore fluking with very few throwbacks and a steady pick going. A 6 lber. was the reward for Warren Parisi. Smaller fluke are being taken on the flats locally with 3 to 4 lbers. being the pool range in this area.

The **Helen H** on both day and night bluefish trips has been bagging choppers to 12 lbs. jigging days and baiting at night.

Charlie at **Mike's Tackle** directly across from the fleet termed the bluefishing very good with A27s with tails catching best days. Saturday was super at Klondike, said Charlie. Night trips have also been good at the Mud Hole on butters and smelts. Fluking has been good with a 50 percent keeper ratio, fish to 6 lbs. Bottom action has been a pick, mostly ling with some blacks and sea bass mixed in. The crew from the shop had a good half day fluke trip on Capt. George's **America** with several 4 lbers. hung. Jack McNeely managed a 5 lb. 9 oz. fluke on a Bay charter trip. BCCs in the Bay and small bass being taken at dawn on bucktails and worms, all being released.

North Shore REPORT
with Marty Garrell

Generally favorable weather conditions made for good angling, although Father's Day crowds were spotty, as spotty as the bluefishing in some areas. Bass were very much in evidence, fluke were here today, gone tomorrow and porgies finally seemed to be filtering into regions east and west.

WESTERN SOUND

John Palmieri at **John's Gun** felt that blues had slacked off but that loads of bass, including a few 20s and 30s were being taken on plugs, and chunks. Pete Pearson's **Klondike VIII** from New Rochelle left the confines of the Sound, where blues were so scarce and made trips down to Sandy Hook. Besides jigging for large blues, the big boat also produced a few striped bass.

Jack's Bait on City Island mentioned a few porgies now being taken around Sands Point, Gangway Rock and New Rochelle. Jack Rumpf felt that tautog were still the best bet. The **Apache** and the **North Star** were mixing bottom bags. Pete Anderson of the **North Star** was worried about "jumping the gun" on scup after a Monday trip yielded half and three-quarter buckets which dwindled to a

few fish per fare by Wednesday. However, Anderson recouped with some good action on sizable flounder and tautog off Stamford and Norwalk over the weekend. He plans to "play it according to the people" and work for mixed bags until the scup show in numbers.

John Cacciola at **Glen Cove Sport** said that there had been one night of blitz conditions on weakfish off the Glen Cove shoreline, Scott Kormoski weighed seven fish to 11 lbs. 5 oz. Besides the weaks, Frank Grieco posted a 9 lb. 12 oz. blue and Ron Oldenburg weighed a 27 lb. linesider. Cacciola advised trolling with umbrellas from Prospect Point to Peacock, mornings and evenings.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

George Valentine at **Four Winds** liked the fluke fishing for 2 and 3 lb. fish off Sand City and around Eaton's Neck. There were a lot of bass now being taken by worm trollers, but almost none of the stripers were over 30 inches. Bluefish were very much in evidence off the Huntington Harbor ramp on several mornings last week with some slammers to 14 lbs. Those who wanted scup were advised to try Crane's Neck, Smithtown Bay and Buoys 4 and 6 off Centerport.

Bob Cedar at **Huntington Prop** told us that the harbor became "shoulder to shoulder" when the blues moved in. Ken Katz had a dozen choppers on the **Reelist** and Kevin Becker released 8 bass to 34 inches off Marshall Field.

Tom Bowman at **Bowman's** in Northport saw what may have been the best fluke catch of the week off Sand City. One sharpie had a half dozen summer flounder to 6½ lbs. in 20 feet of water off the Coast Guard station. Combo bait and bucktails were the rigs of choice. Fort Salonga had small porgies, but there was an excellent catch of winter flounder averaging 14 inches apiece by Gerhardt Spielmann. He had 10 big flatties.

John Caraftis at the **Caraftis Fishing Station** in Port Jeff had great reports of weekend action on scup off Oldfield, where massive catches of fish ranging from sand porgies to 1½ lb. mediums were taken. The Flack's Pond zone yielded catches of up to a dozen keeper fluke per boat, with a few big fish, 5 and 6 lbers., logged on the scales. Ralph Davenport at **Ralph's Fishing Station** in Mount Sinai also noted the scup showing in rocky areas. Unfortunately draggers up from Shinnecock cleaned out a lot of fluke from the area, but there were still a few in front of the station. Bluefish in cocktail sizes around 2 lbs. were evident around buoy 11.

Warren's Tackle and Archery Supply in Selden told us that one of his regulars had a half dozen tautog to 6¾ lbs. off the pipeline plus a pair of keeper fluke. The larger weighed 3¼.

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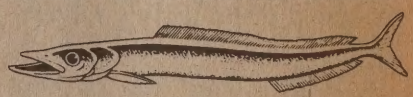

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Another regular had a dozen keeper summer flounder from the Flack's area. Al Sturges at the **Complete Angler** maintained that the best porgy fishing was off Rocky Point while the tautog around Cedar Beach were still a good bet. Bill at **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** explained that there were tons of bluefish in 1 to 3 lb. sizes around the bar off West Meadow Beach, Stony Brook Harbor. These were ideal fish for fly rodding, but 3/4 oz. Kastmasters worked, too. From 7PM until dark, there was always the chance of picking up a weakfish under the blues.

John Alberda of **Sound Charters T.J.** called to say that his split charters fared very well in the blitz last week around Huntington Harbor. Roger and Matt Walmsley had more than a dozen bluefish to 16 lbs. in one hour on Friday. Ira Kanasick plugged some blues and then took a 28 lb. bass on a chunk. Alberda is running seven days of morning-afternoon charters and advised those who want the best fishing around the moons to call early for reservations.

NORTH FORK

Late day fluke fishing proved worthwhile for Nick Cyprus at **Warren's Tackle Center** in Aquebogue on Saturday. He had about two dozen keepers with the largest fluke around 4½ lbs. Most of the drifts were off Mattituck Inlet. Maureen Caraftis at the **Mattituck Fishing Station** weighed one 6 lb. summer flounder on Sunday, and told us that there had been a lot of action on bluefish off the beach early in the morning. Several good catches of scup, more than 25 lbs. per boat, were recorded by Ron Petersen at the **Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station**. Fishing was in 25 feet of water with clam chum. Petersen saw some bass and blues off local beaches as well as a 10 lb. weakfish.

Except for dozens of cocktail bluefish, action around Robins Island was

slow for boats out of **Captain Marty's** over the weekend. **Pleasures of the Sea** in Southold felt that porgy action was better around Rocky Point, East Marion, than it was off Gardiner's. One of the local charters apparently did very well on flounder by sailing down to Connecticut. Louise at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** in Greenport old us that bluefish action had picked up in the Fishers Island Race as well as Plum Gut. Bluefish also remain the topic of conversation for those jigging off Jessups Neck in the evenings.

Bob Ceglowski will be sailing the **Captain Bob** as an open boat on Saturday evening trips (4PM) for blues and weaks until September, except Saturday, July 4th. Ceglowski had a blast of bottom fishing on Saturday that included hundreds of scup, dozens of tautog, and some sea bass as well. He feels that summer bottom fishing is about to break loose. However, he intends to stay with fluke for his open boat trips on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday because there are still so many quality summer flounder around. One of his regulars, Norman Peters, took a career fluke on Thursday's Horton's Point trip. The doormat weighed 10½ lbs. and was among a half dozen hangers above 4½ lbs.

John Rainis carried well with his newly outfitted **Sea Star** last week. When fluking for 3 to 4 lb. fish died off Gardiner's, Rainis took his fares for some Plum Gut bluefishing, and they bailed choppers to 9 lbs. One big striper was dropped at boatside.

Dave Brennan of the **Peconic Star** called to say that there are good numbers of scup on peaks in 25 to 45 feet of water around Gardiner's Island. Catches have been up and down from Friday (up to 30 scup per fare) to Saturday (four fish or so). Although Saturday's pool was won by a huge flounder, a scup of 3 lbs. was in second place. The porgies seem to be waking up now, according to Brennan, who plans to be outfitting his new **Peconic Star II** in a few weeks.

Pete Izzo will be sailing the **BoAnne II** on open boat trips from Southold beginning July 1st. His weekend of fishing in the Bay was poor, with only a few fluke and blues to show for the effort. Drift conditions off East Marion left much to be desired while jigging at Jessup's did not produce as expected.

Surf REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

A flurry of weakfish action at Montauk, a couple of impressive stripers and plenty of school bass action along Western Sound beaches highlight this week's Surf Report.

Out in **Montauk**, Johnny Kronuch reported a few schoolie bass taken from dusk into dark on False Bar during the week. He also knew of some bass and a lone weakfish taken at Ditch Plains on the weekend. No bluefish action to speak of this week but there were rumors of weakfish taken at Shagwong on late night tides.

Paul Graniello at **J&J Tackle** in **Patchogue** said that Shinnecock Inlet continues to produce striper action. Bob Antici worked the inlet late Thursday night and used 6 inch Bombers to take 3 bass from 8 to 12 pounds. Paul heard from one customer of weakfish taken at Montauk on Friday night but the gent left no specifics. Paul also heard of an occasional weak and some school bass taken along Sound beaches in the Smithtown area.

At **J&R Sports Center** in **Oakdale** came confirmation of weakfish action at Montauk on Friday night. Dave himself fished Shagwong late Friday night where he and Pat Ryan teamed to take 5 weaks from 5½ to 11 pounds. The pair dropped another 7 fish at the beach and also weighed a 16 pound striper for another caster. Dave added that they saw another 30 or so weaks landed by other casters. Fish were taken on yellow Needlefish and Redfin swimmers.

Over at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**, Mike Andreani reported weighing an 11.6 pound weakfish for Chris Winterbottom on Saturday. It was taken on a squid strip meant for a fluke. He fished from the Bar at the north end of the Robert Moses bridge. Mike also checked a 34 inch striper taken inside Fire Island inlet on a mackerel chunk Friday night by George Turney.

Striper Surf Club PR man Mike Kaland relayed word of a pair of very impressive stripers taken by fellow club members late Friday/early Saturday at West End II, Jones Beach. Using plugs, John Williamson nailed a 43 pound cow while Mitch Sarro drilled a 45 pounder.

Joe Augeri who handles the PR for Gateway Striper Club also had a fine striper to report for one of his club members. Thorton Booker, using a live bunker from a Rockaway jetty managed a 31 pound striper during the week. Joe spoke of some weakfish in the 8 to 9 pound class showing up on the back side of Breezey and

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also along Great Kills on Staten Island during the week. Redfin and Rebel swimmers took fish in both areas. Some club members worked Caumsett State Park on Friday and Saturday nights and reported lots of school bass to 8 pounds during the night. One club member spoke of three hours of non-stop action.

Bob Vitale of **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor** worked a bank in the back bay area of Baldwin Sunday evening. He reported lots of bunker working the area. He also used a 007 and a one hand stick to take 20 small blues and one mis-guided 8 pounder that must have been riding herd on the bunker.

Frank Lallo told me that he and Al Ewing suffered through a quiet weekend at Manhattan Beach and Breezey Point. Fourteen hours of effort on the weekend produced only one small bass and a small bluefish.

Up at **Rocky Point Fishing Stop**, Stan Hentschel told of lots of small blues in the early AM and evenings along local beaches on tins and plugs. Hulse Landing has been particularly hot of late. After dark, casters working swimming plugs and dropper combos pick an occasional weak or school bass but nothing steady really going on for the night crowd.

Freshwater REPORT
with Tom Schlichter

Freshwater fishing continues to hold its own in terms of numbers of bass and panfish available; however, the hot temperatures over the last week or so have cut into the number of lunker bass reported. Trout fishing in the lakes has slowed considerably, but action in the tidal streams has been outstanding over the last several days with quite a few big fish reported. Look for the best catches of both bass and trout to come early or late in the day when water temperatures are at their coolest. Fishing after dark may provide a better chance at connecting with some big fish.

At **Beckmann's Bait and Tackle, Lynbrook**, Bill Beckman reports that the local fishing scene has changed little from last week. Anglers are still taking small bass and panfish in local lakes and ponds. Over at Grant Park, one angler nailed an 8 lb. carp on Uncle Josh Carp Bait. Things are beginning to slow down at Hempstead Lake, but anglers wading early or late in the day are still picking a fair share of fish.

From Mike Nicolletti of **Causeway Bait and Tackle, Wantagh**, we learned that Lee Wiengarten this week caught a total of 41 legal sized

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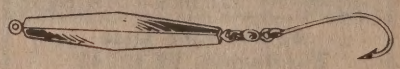

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trout to 3 lbs. at Bubbles Falls on the Connetquot River. In South Twin Lake, a lot of big bluegills fell this wee to night crawler baits while in the North Lake, anglers picked bass on live killies fished along the weed lines.

Fred Laager of **Edelman's Sportsman's Center, Centereach**, informed us that on Saturday, Mark Testle connected with a 4 lb. bass in Lake Ronkonkoma. Mark was working a Mister Twister gold spinner and black worm combo when the chunky bass struck. Another angler, Paul Tully, fished two ponds adjacent to Lake Panamoka where he clicked with 6 bass to 3 lbs.

From **Charlie's Bait and Tackle, Lindenhurst**, Jim Schaffer told us that Doug Orkins found a 4 lb. bass willing to take a jitterbug along the shoreline of Southard's Pond. Other anglers reported taking some small bass and a few pickerel at the same location on small Rapalas and Rooster Tail spinners.

From Richie at **Pine Grove Outfitters**, we hear hat those Lake Ronkonkoma bass have been on the feed. On Saturday, one angler weighed in and then released a 6.25 lb. bucketmouth that fell for a straight, black plastic worm. Fishng on the big lake has been pretty good in general according to Rich and panfish have been hitting even better than the bass. On Sunday, Rich got to sample some of the action himself, taking several crappies and a 16 inch tiger muskie (released) on a Rooster Tail spinner.

The crew at **J&R Sportsman's Center, Oakdale**, reported a busy week just past with plenty of big trout checked out of both the Connetquot River and Bubbles Falls. On Sunday, Dave Canale put me on the phone with Troy Rigney who reported taking several trout to 18 inches from the Connetquot River and a few good innings with panfish and bass to 18 inches on Lake Ronkonkoma. Worms fished beneath a bobber did the trick for Troy. On Thursday, Tom Luciano culled a 2.5 lb. rainbow trout from Bubbles Falls and Steve Cidoni and Andy Alessandro relayed word tht they had 8 rainbow trout to 2.5 lbs. on worms fished in the tidal section of the Connetquot River. Quite a few other anglers reported catching and releasing trout of 12 to 20 inches at the same locations.

Jim Romano of **Peppy's Bait and Tackle, East Islip**, reports Craig and Bruce Homis played the Connetquot River to the tune of 6 rainbow and brown trout during the week. These fish came from inside the park and fell for black stonefly nypmhs. Their friend Robert also had some good action, taking a 3 lb. bow and releasing 3 others that were duped with a white zonker.

From John at **J&J Bait and Tackle, Patchogue**, the word is that shop regulars continue to score with bass in local lakes but the number of large fish has been on the slide. Over in

Southaven Park, Frank Sullivan had a few bass to 2 lbs. on night crawlers.

Out east at the **Fisherman's Deli** on the bank of the Peconic River, Mrs. Devlin felt anglers in her area were also taking a lot of bass but few keepers. On Sunday, Gary Ross of Riverhead, clicked with a few fish to 2 lbs. These were taken on plastic worms. On Saturday, a Mr. Cirffo of Deer park, got a few nice pickerel and bass with spinning gear, then worked the long wand to score with a mess of nice crappies.

Charlie Guthrie, Senior Aquatic Biologist for the Long Island DEC gave me a ring this week to pass on some interesting information. The DEC has completed its annual spring electroshocking of Lake Ronkonkoma and this season they sampled 40 bass, the largest of which was a 19 inch fish that weighed about 5 lbs. In general, the water was murky during this year's sampling and that cut down on the number of fish taken. Still those fish that were sampled showed a good range in terms of size and Charlie told me it looks like there was a good spawn in the lake this season. Also of interest will be news that some anglers already report catching fish over some of the 200 Christmas trees that were placed on the lake bottom by the DEC and Long Island Bassmasters earlier this year. One angler, in fact, landed a 3.5 lbe. this week. The DEC now has new maps available showing the new structure on the big lake and anglers can call Guthrie at (516) 751-7900, to order or get more information on the maps.

Speaking of the Bassmasters, Charlie relayed word that on their recent opening day tournament held on Fort Pond, Montauk, few legal largemouths were taken. First place went to a 3.3 pound fish while the runner-up weighed 2.6 pounds. On the bright side, however, quite a few smallmouths in the 11" to 14" range were caught and released and anglers caught two hybrid stripers, both weighing close to 2.5 pounds.

Lastly, it has been brought to my attention several times in recent weeks that anglers fishing the Bubbles Falls area, and in particular the tidal section of Rattlesnake Creek, have been leaving behind a lot of garbage. I've spoken with some of the residents in this area and they have told me that it has been mostly adults responsible for the mess that has been steadily building. We all know how difficult it is to get and maintain fishing access, so let's make a real effort to pick up after ourselves whenever we go fishing. At this particular location, it might be a good idea to carry this spirit even a little further and pick up a little trash on each trip—even if it isn't your own. This way, the creek will remain clean and the residents happy while we can continue to fish with easy access and little resentment from the surrounding community. Let's not allow a few careless anglers to spoil it for the rest of us.

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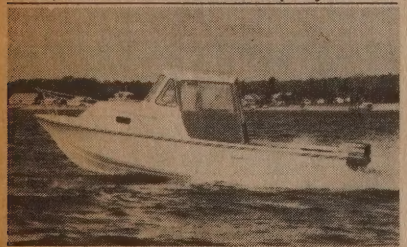

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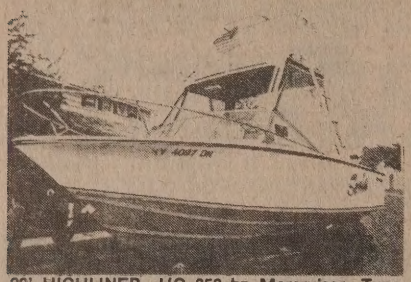


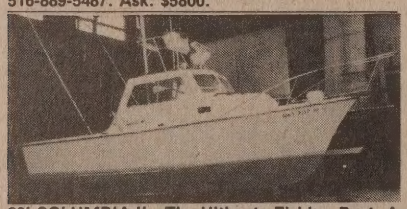
22' HIGHLINER I/O 350 hp Mercruiser. Tuna tower, full encl. Loaded; very seaworthy offshore boat. 80 gal. fuel tank. Shoreline tandem galv. trailer. Must sell. $15,000 Neg. 516-621-2255.

LUHRS 1983/84 34' Sportfisherman. Twin 350 Crusaders w/600 hrs. 2 Si-Tex graph recorders; 1 Ray Jefferson color recorder; 1 new 80001 King Loran; 1 Si-Tex Loran; 1 Furuno 24 mi. radar. Digital depth finder, surface water temp gauge. Tower w/controls. Free drop windlass. Rod holders, outriggers, fight chair, downriggers. Full new canvas. Salt/Freshwater washdown. VHF, Hailer, CB, stereo & much more. $85,500. 516-669-9313.

23' UNIFLITE FBSF 1984 225 hp I/B. All electronics. New alum. tanks, extra fuel, washdown. Summer covers, dual hyd. stations. Great cond. Key ready. $14,500 Neg. 516-798-2134.

1982 GLASTRON 15' Bowrider, 90 hp Merc. compl. w/Trailer, covers, skis. Owner leaving. Motor needs work. Fast sale. $2900 Firm. 516-431-2417.

1983 MANATEE Center console, 1983 75 hp Chrysler, 1986 Cox trailer. All under warranties. Boat in water for Demo. Aero Marine, Island Pk. 516-889-5487. Ask: $5800.

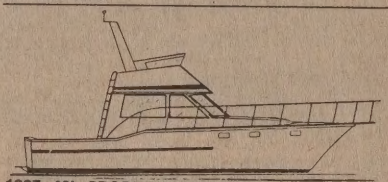


28' COLUMBIA II—The Ultimate Fishing Boat. A chance to own a fully equip. 28' Sportfisherman. Turn the key & you're ready for sharks or any kind of fishing. The boat features tower w/full instrumentation, teak bow pulpit, teak transom platform & transom door. Powered by a Merc 260 hp FWC I/B w/170 gal. tank. In the deck are 2 big, insulated, flush mounted fish boxes. Accessories incl. Furuno 24 mi. radar, Robertson auto pilot, interphased w/Micrologic Loran. Features 3 Lowrance depth recorders, 2 digital & 1 paper machine w/dual transducer selection, a printing sea water temp, VHF & CB radios. Sports an auto anchor windlass, outriggers, trim tabs, SW washdown, full polyurethane flotation in hull & cannot sink. Built-in tackle boxes, 2 fwd bunks, sink, stove, marine toilet, shore-power hook-up & built-in batt. charger. Stored inside, ready for viewing & water ready. Boat is mint. All this for the low price of $49,990. For appt. to view it, call 516-862-9254.

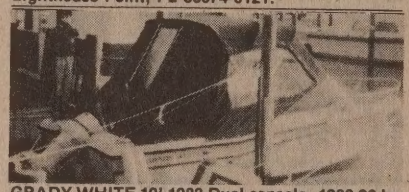
AQUASPORT 246-CCP 1981. Bought new in 1983. Like new & loaded. 225 hp Merc. O/B, low hrs. Icom M80 radio, Lowrance chart recorder, depth finder, compass. Dual batt., live well, custom T-top, custom canvas. Outriggers. Plus many extras. $17,500. 212-549-3700. Eves: 914-779-2396. Ask for Matt.

TOLLYCRAFT 24' Fiberglass, full cabin, w/head, sink, 225 hp I/O OMC. Plenty fishing room. Excl. cond. Extras. Boat in Bronx marina. Must sell. A steal at $6500. Eves: 914-279-5442. Days: 914-397-6792. Ask for Bill.

PROLINE 84, 23' Walkaround cabin, 235 Evinrude. Hardly used. Excl. fishing boat. $15,500. 516-378-3026.



1987 40' SPORTFISHERMAN, twin Caterpillar diesels. Introductory special price: $109,000. Write for details. BUDDHA BOATS, P.O. Box 50212, Lighthouse Point, FL 33074-0121.



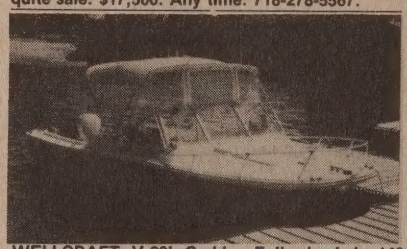
GRADY WHITE 19' 1983 Dual console, 1983 90 hp Johnson. Full canvas. VHF, flasher, etc. $8900. Eves: 718-729-1604.

ACHILLES 11', 9-man inflatable raft w/oars, pump & case. Excl. cond. $175. 516-669-4487.

1983 31' JC Sportfisherman, flybridge, 3 station steering. Insulated fish hole, fight chair. Full electronics. V6 71TI diesel. $83,000. 1-203-838-0503.

MUST SELL—MOVING OVERSEAS

24' Sportcraft 1984 Offshore Family Fisherman. 227 hp Mercruiser 1984 I/O. Very low hrs. Cabin sleeps 2; stand-up head, sink, icebox, canvas, washdown. Walkaround. Bottom just painted. Electronics, double gas tank. Many extras. Must see. Absolutely mint. Priced below book value for quite sale: $17,500. Any time: 718-278-5567.



WELLCRAFT V-20' Cuddy. Fully loaded. 140 Evinrude PT&T. Galv. trailer, power winch. Compl fishing machine. Full electronics. More. $8600. 516-294-3059/421-9362.

USED BOAT BONANZA! Over 50 used boats from 16' to 25' on display. Call for complete list. PORT OF EGYPT, Main Rd., Southold. 516-765-2445.

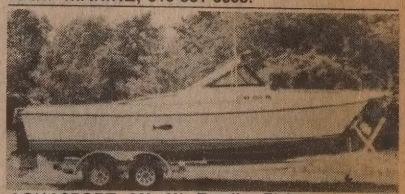
BEAUTIFUL 20' MAKO. Absolutely ready to go fishing offshore/inshore. Less than 40 hrs. on 1985½ oil inj. 200 hp Merc, w/pwr trim. Less than 3 hrs. on 1985 25 hp Merc. Aux. Fully King equip. 8001 Loran interfaced to 1060A chart recorder w/digital temp & speed, 7000 VHF. Lee outriggers, Penn 620 downrigger. One season on new Bimini top, spray hood & connector, 4 Lee rod holders. Custom mahogany console rod holders, 3500# galv. Shoreline trailer. Only $15,900. Days: 201-327-1123. Eves: 914-534-9374.

14' Fiberglass Skiff, trailer & 20 hp Mercury. In excl. cond. Will not sell separately. $1400. Eves: 212-430-9482.

RICHTER Custom Built "Deer Isle 24," 120 hp diesel. Head, graph, VHF/CB, windlass. Much more. 516-842-3564.

1977 STRATFORD Dory 16' center console. 40 hp Evinrude electric start. Excl. cond. Extras. $1500 Firm. Wknds: 516-728-2764. Wkdys after 6PM: 718-645-0804.

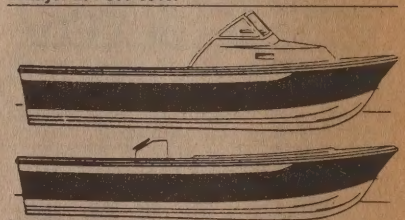
28' 1978 Topaz Tower, Mercs
30' 1974 Columbia Tower, Perkins
32' 1985 Blackfin, Cats
36' 1984 Runaway, Volvos
37' 1981 Stapleton Canyon GMs
45' 1982 Glass Charter/Dive, GM
46' 1971 Chris Aquahome, Gas
32' 1985 Holland Canyon, Isuzu
31' 1973 Uniflite Chryslers
46' 1985 Oceans 6/92s
KARP MARINE, 516-581-3308.



AQUASPORT 22' 2" Family Fisherman, 1981 Evinrude 140, rebuilt in '84. Si-Tex Recorder, VHF. Full custom canvas, 1987 Karavan trailer w/brakes. $12,500. 516-567-3032.

1980 AQUASPORT 22' 2" C.C.P. 175 Mercury, Loran, Si-Tex recorder, 1982 Tandem Cox trailer. $9500. Eves: 516-747-5370.

WELLCRAFT V20 cuddy '79 140 Merc O/B. Full canvas, plus Bimini, front curtain, boot, Lowrance white line, VHF, CB, outriggers, SW washdown & more. Immaculate. $8200. Wknds: 516-728-0194. Wkdys: 201-836-6316.



21' OFF SOUNDINGS Deep Vee. Built for those who make a living from the sea. Commercial & sports models. COMPASS ROSE BOATWORKS, Seaford, NY. 516-783-3220.

BOATING EQUIP.

RADAR, Loran, autopilots, VHF, SSB, fish recorders. Sales & service most major brands. Custom installations. MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS INC., 377 Woodcleft Av, Freeport, NY; 516-623-4421.

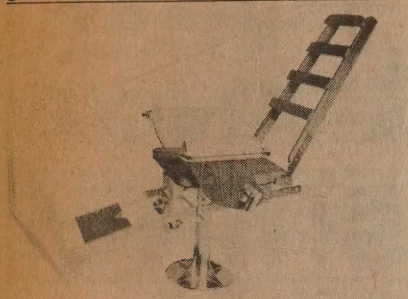
BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem Axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-05 B'Way, Woodside, NY. 718-426-7039.

AVON 6-Man life raft in fiberglass canister w/survival equip. Incl. teak mounting brackets. $1650 Firm. After 6:30: 516-248-5649.

CUSTOM MARINE WOODWORK. No job too small: tackle lockers, instrument enclosures, consoles, bow pulpits, etc. Interior & exterior repairs & restorations. CUSTOM MARINE CARPENTRY, 516-623-1639.

BOAT TRAILERS: EZ loader. All sizes in stock. Immediate del. Priced right. Trailer hitches installed. SEAHORSE TRAILER® Glen Head, NY. 516-676-5313.

WANTED: 1 USED hand-held Marine Radio in good working order. 516-667-1579.



HIGH QUALITY Savvy Fighting & helm chairs. Man. of highest quality marine components. Dealer inquiries invited. 201-534-2751 or 201-920-0104.

BOAT HAULING. Complete dependable service; certified O/B repairs. Road service work guaranteed. SANA HARBOR MARINE, 516-666-2292.

COMPASSES—COMPASSES—COMPASSES
Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

83 Mariner 9.9 S/Shaft. Excl. cond. Low hrs. Handle extension, manual start. $725. 516-579-7555.

BOAT TRAILER REPAIR. Complete w/all new galvanized parts. FAZIO MFG. INC., 1121-16 Lincoln Av., Holbrook, NY 11741. 516-563-2263.

ANYTHING MARINE Junk Yard. The computer brokerage for used parts. Manifolds to lower units, power trim to fighting chairs. New & used electronics, outboards, blown engines & used equip. wanted. 516-472-4887.

FISHING TACKLE

7 Matched 50 lb. class rods; Fenwick blanks, aluminum butts; 5 - 50 Internationals; 2 - 50W Internationals. All w/80 lb. line. All in mint cond. After 5: 516-667-0317.

SHARK SPECIALS
S/S cable tail ropes coated, w/7' nylon-$48; Shark rigs 11/0-$2.50. SUFFOLK FISH-N-TACKLE, Box 201, Brightwaters, NY 11718.

LATE! LATE! LATE! It's not too late. EDELMAN'S. See ad Page 2.

MUSTAD HOOKS
and other fine tackle at sensible prices. Free catalog. TERMINAL TACKLE CO., Box 427, Kings Park, NY 11754

CATCH MORE FISH—with superior designed saltwater rigs. Send for free catalog now! HUDSON TACKLE, Dept. I, P.O. Box 437, Kearny, NJ 07032.

MISCELLANEOUS

LINE SPLICING: eye splices, back splices, 3-strand, or double braided. 516-725-9311. Ask for Doug.

ILLUSIONS BOAT POLISHING
Fishermen & pleasure boaters, have your boat professionally cleaned & polished in time for the spring & summer seasons. Quality results. Free estimates. Chuck, 516-665-2271.

WINTER STORAGE & '87 Summer Dockage avail. in Seaford. COMPASS ROSE BOATWORKS, 516-783-3220.

MARINE ELECTRONIC Installation & electrical repair. Service at your location. Free estimates. Tom or Bob: 391-6341. 661-0038 Eves.

FREE 12-page Hunting & Fishing Video Tape Catalog. Send $2, refundable w/1st order. FRANK'S SPORT CENTER, 2244 86th St., Brooklyn, NY 11214.

BOAT SLIP FOR RENT at Minnifords on City Island. 28'. 516-627-5569.

RECORDER PAPER at substantial savings. Prices for 6 rolls: Si-Tex 4"-$23. Lowrance X15-$24. King 6"-$29. Lowrance lined 1510-$29. All others avail. p/h $2.50 addt'l. NJ res. add 6% sales tax. Send check or M.O. to: JP PAPER CO., P.O. Box 149, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442; 201-838-9324.

VIDEOS

The most exciting Bluewater Videos ever produced! Free listing & price list. Write: BRAID PRODUCTS, Box 1305 FM, Woodland, CA 91364.

FULLY LICENSED CAPTAIN: Available for water deliveries, boat/navigation instruction; charts & trips. 516-795-4498.

PENSION PLANS: Get the right one and fish for the rest of your life. THE RETIREMENT PLAN CO. OF L.I. 516-627-5569.

DIESEL FUEL—Premium diesel fuel delivered to your boat. Buy direct & save. 422-2258.

RELIABLE MARINE SERVICE
We come to your boat. Tune-ups, troubleshooting, rebuilding. Factory certified. Free service calls. BOB LEATHERMAN, 516-585-4594.

MERCRUISER Sterndrives repaired & overhauled. Rebuilt outdrives for sale. Trim cylinders rebuilt. HIGHLAND MARINE, 516-587-7567.

Boats Professionally Tuned-Up. Mechanical & fiberglass repairs. Bottom paint, waxing. MOBILE MARINE SERVICE, 581-4246.

INSURANCE: Boat, home, auto. Low rates. All Risk. ROYAL BROKERAGE, Hauppauge, Jericho, W. Islip. 516-435-1666.

HOUSE PAINTING: Interior & Exterior by Jack "The Painter" Murray. Let us paint while you fish. 516-273-0960.

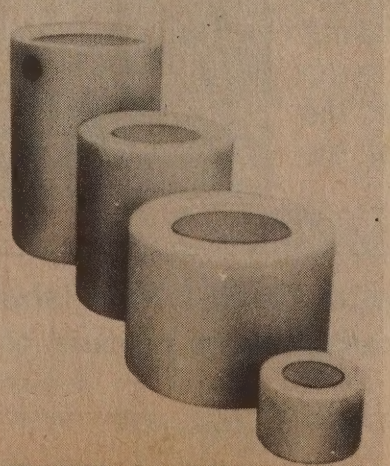
NEED A SCUBA DIVER? Call DOUG'S DIVE SERVICE, 516-725-9311.

WANTED: Fishermen to share expenses. Boat in Montauk. Flounder, cod, weaks, porgies, tuna. Eves: 516-671-7690.

BOAT CLEANING: Washing, waxing, interior & exterior cleaning. All types of cleaning service. Weekly, monthly, seasonal rates. Special spring open-up service. Call for free estimates. LIKE NEW BOAT CLEANING, Richie: 516-826-3699.

OUTBOARD & STERNDRIVE SERVICE
Spring tune-ups & repairs. OMC, Mercruiser, Johnson, Evinrude, Mercury. Service calls. Reasonable rates. 516-334-3453.

SAND BLAST Boat Bottoms: fiberglass, wood, steel. No job too big or too small. 516-226-2041.



LIVE BAIT WELLS, pumps & accessories. For free brochure, send $.25 p/h. THE CADDY CO., 57 Bayonne Av, Dept. E, Central Islip, NY 11722; 516-234-0144.

Fish Mounting Special: 1/3 off reg. price. INWOOD TAXIDERMY, 20 Madison Ave., Inwood, NY 11696; 516-239-7716.

BOAT FOR HIRE: Fluke, flounder. Special $149. Blues $250. New 27' Jones Inlet. Capt. John, Eves: 516-541-2088.

Bimini Top/enclosure w/stainless steel frame. Full privacy curtain. Off 26' Fortier. $485. 516-694-8107

New Lobster Traps, wire double funnel. $30 ea. or B/O. Vinny: 914-738-5446. Pelham.

LORAN Numbers for 60 of the area's hottest wrecks, reefs & fishing spots are avail. on a 4"x5½" fully laminated card which is waterproof, durable & compact. Simply send $5 to: DE MAPO ENTERPRISES, 1204 Ave. U, Suite 1231, Brooklyn, NY 11229.

BROTHERS BOAT CLEANING SERVICE
Washing, waxing, interior, exterior. Weekly, monthly, seasonal. Bottom painting. Spring, summer & fall services. Power washing, teak cleaning. For free estimates, call the professionals. Tom or Phil: 516-265-0265.

FOUND: Lindenhurst Bait & Tackle. Now located at 281 E. Montauk Hwy., Lindenhurst; 226-9030. Reward: Free Bait Coupon. Don't miss out.

BEACH BUGGIES

TOW Vehicle with heavy duty suspension & hitch. Good rubber. $500 or best offer. 516-668-2129.

The Ultimate Beach Buggy: Aluminum step van camper, w/refrigerator, freezer, bath, 45 gal. FW, stereo, CB. Must sell. $3850. 516-728-2797.

REAL ESTATE

RENT Farmhouse—230 acres. Walk trout streams, reservoir. Reasonable. Sleeps 4. Equipped. Lower Catskills. 516-431-8021.

MONTAUK—Sell 500' waterfront w/1 large & 11 small houses. Can divide. Rent individually this summer. Secluded; beautiful. 516-668-2273.

FOR SALE: East Setauket—beautiful private village, walk to water, beach & morring rights. Quaint cottage w/winter water view. Needs repair. Separate studio/workshop. $115,000 princ. only. 516-333-9489.

RENT FLORIDA KEYS Condo, Duck Key. 2BR, 2Bth. Fully equip. Week or month. Bus: 516-264-2202. Home: 516-422-3492.

SEAFORD Waterfront: 9 room expanded Cape M/D, 70' bulkhead. New bath, new roof, oak floors, in-ground sprinkler. Mint throughout. $295,000. 516-694-8107.

GETAWAY TO MONTAUK
FOR SALE: Magnificent Harbor apt., A/C, cable TV. Sleeps 4. Boat slip; pool; sauna. $77,500. Pat: 516-668-2211.

HOUSE FOR SALE
Oakdale Waterfront, 100' bulkheaded on protected canal. 1/2 mile to Great South Bay & Connequot River. Hi-Ranch home w/separate Apt. makes this a home you can share. Affordable at $259,000. SANDPIPER REALTY, 589-5400.

WATERFRONT Amityville. Legal 2-family plus, guest cottage, workshop, 14' boat slip. Solar, siding, private beach. Good income. Owner: 691-1828.

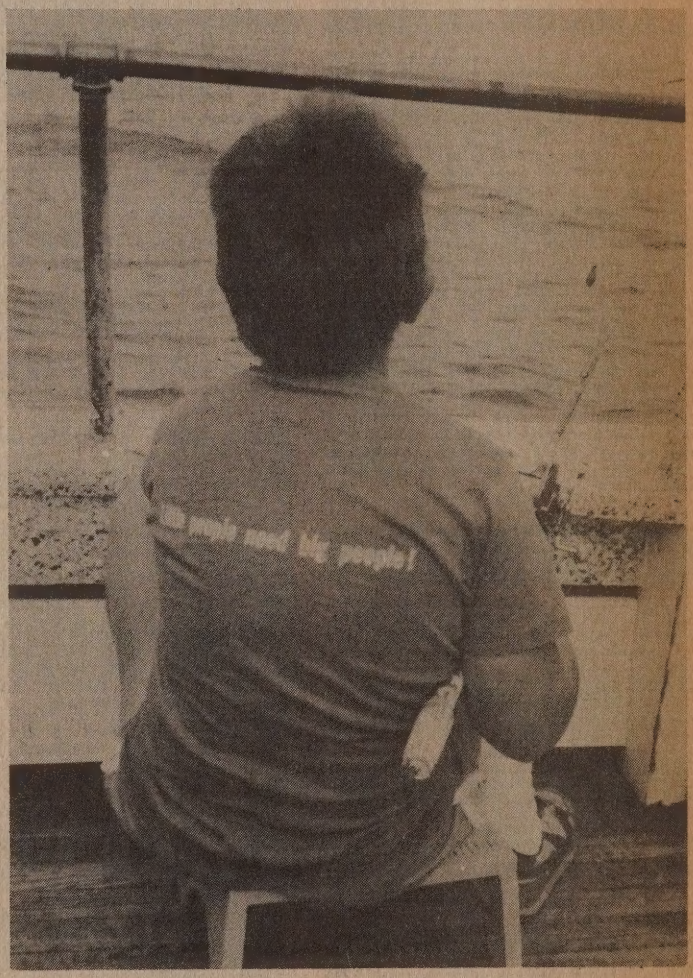
MONTAUK—THE LANDINGS
1BR Co-Op on Lake Montauk, "New England Village setting" w/pool, sauna & pvt. boat slip. Fully furn. Harbor view & more. Good income investment. Be ready for season! $85,000. Call now! Patti: 516-668-2211.

MONTAUK: Beautiful Cottages for rent on the cliffs overlooking Ft. Pond Bay. In-between Harbor & town. Daily, weekly. 516-668-2071.

MONTAUK: Heart of the Harbor. Walk to fishing boats. Waterfront 2BR cottages, apartments, studios. Cottages accommodate up to 6 persons. Montauk Soundview, 516-668-2771/668-9152.

JOIN US AT THE Fisherman AND SEND-A-KID FISHING

THIS SUMMER



We, here at **The Fisherman,** feel that the need to introduce youngsters to this healthy and wholesome sport has never been greater. If you agree, and would like to join with us in making the **Send-A-Kid Fishing Program** a success, won't you please send a small donation to help us fund fishing trips for these boys and girls. A donation of $9.00 will cover the cost of a day's fishing for one youngster, but any contribution at all will be greatly appreciated. A listing of the names of all those who contribute to the program will appear in **The Fisherman** at the close of the season.

Yes, I would like to "Send-A-Kid Fishing" this summer.
Enclosed is a donation in the amount of $_____

Name _____

PLEASE PRINT

SEND-A-KID FISHING

Make checks payable to: "SEND-A-KID FISHING." All donations should be sent to: Post Office Box 1994, Bridge Street, Sag Harbor, New York 11963

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . −0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." −0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	8:00	8:15	8:55	9:10	8:45	8:55	9:45	9:50	—	12:15	11:40	11:45	7:50	8:10	6/25
FRI.	8:40	8:50	9:35	9:50	9:25	9:35	10:25	10:25	12:20	12:50	—	12:20	8:35	8:50	6/26
SAT.	9:20	9:30	10:15	10:30	10:10	10:10	11:05	11:05	12:45	1:25	12:25	12:25	9:15	9:30	6/27
SUN.	10:05	10:05	10:50	11:05	10:55	10:50	11:45	11:45	1:10	1:50	1:00	1:30	10:00	10:15	6/28
MON.	10:45	10:40	11:30	11:45	11:40	11:30	—	12:25	1:35	2:05	1:40	2:10	10:40	10:55	6/29
TUES.	11:25	11:20	—	12:10	—	12:20	12:25	1:10	2:05	2:40	2:20	2:50	11:25	11:35	6/30
WED.	—	12:10	12:25	12:50	12:05	1:00	1:05	1:55	2:45	3:15	2:55	3:30	—	12:10	7/1
THURS.	12:05	12:50	1:05	1:35	12:45	1:35	1:50	2:40	3:25	3:55	3:40	4:10	12:20	12:55	7/2

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	−0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	−0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	−0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	−0 12
Seaside Park	−0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	−0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	−0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	−0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	−0 02
Rehobeth Beach	−0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Democrat Point	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42
Falkner Island	−0 13
Sachem Head	−0 10
Branford Harbor	−0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	−0 08
Milford Harbor	−0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	−0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	−0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	−0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	−0 14
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point, north side	−1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	−0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	−0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	−0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28
Port Chester	−0 09
Mamaroneck	−0 08
New Rochelle	−0 24
Davids Island	−0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	−0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	−0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	−1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	−0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	−0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	−0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	−0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:		RISE:	SET:
THU.	6/25	5:25	8:40
FRI.	6/26	5:25	8:40
SAT.	6/27	5:25	8:40
SUN.	6/28	5:26	8:40
MON.	6/29	5:26	8:40
TUE.	6/30	5:27	8:40
WED.	7/1	5:27	8:40

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:		RISE:	SET:
THU.	6/25	4:25AM	8:35PM
FRI.	6/26	5:15AM	9:25PM
SAT.	6/27	6:10AM	10:05PM
SUN.	6/28	7:15AM	10:35PM
MON.	6/29	8:15AM	11:05PM
TUE.	6/30	9:20AM	11:25PM
WED.	7/1	10:20AM	11:50PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
6/26	7/4	7/11	7/17

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	4:50	11:00	5:10	11:25
Fri.	5:40	11:45	5:55	—
Sat.	6:30	12:15	6:50	12:40
Sun.	7:20	1:10	7:50	1:35
Mon.	8:10	2:00	8:40	2:25
Tues.	9:00	2:50	9:25	3:10
Wed.	9:45	3:35	10:15	4:00
Thurs.	10:30	4:20	10:55	4:40

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"Serving Long Island Fishermen since 1928"

★ ★ ★ This Weeks Super Savers are: ★ ★ ★

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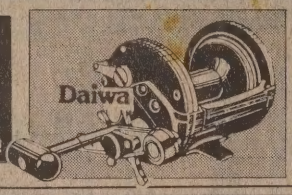

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- Strong, lightweight graphite construction
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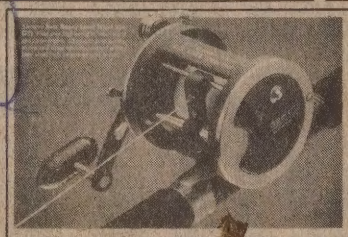
- High-speed retreive • Rugged machine cut gearing
- Loud spool click

DWA-SL250H Medium S/W 450 yds./20 lb. Ratio 5.1:1

DWA-SL175H Medium S/W Levelwind 380 yds./14 lb. Ratio 4.2:1

Your choice $29.95



New from Penn!

SUPER LEVEL WIND 320 GTi

- Lightweight, 1 piece graphite frame
- Titanium line guide
- Ball bearing smoothness
- Oversize drag system
- Lightweight anodized aluminum spool
- Cap. 325 yds. of 20 lb. test
- 4.5:1 gear ratio

$38.88

★ *World's Most Famous Mono* ★

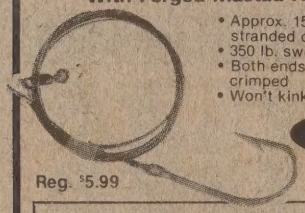
ANDE

We will fill any reel with **ANDE MONO** on our New Line Winding Machine!

Saves you the trouble of spooling yourself!

8 - 50 LB.	80 - 130 LB.
2¢ per yard	4¢ per yard

SHARK RIG
With Forged Mustad Hook



- Approx. 15' of 250 lb. stranded cable
- 350 lb. swivel
- Both ends double crimped
- Won't kink or break

$3.88

Reg. $5.99

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Daiwa #1921H 11', 2 piece Rod with Penn #105 Spinning Reel — **$59.95**

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Daiwa SGC73C 7' Rod with Penn 500M Jigmaster Reel — **$75.00**

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BI50CG 5' Rod, White Glass, Ceramic Guides with Penn 155M Reel — **$34.99**

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"STROKER" RODS
Stand-Up Tuna Custom Series
Model #CTS 6455-AR
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Now $149.99
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Penn #620 DOWNRIGGER
Complete with Cable and Weight

48" Heavy Duty Boom • Swivel-Matic Base
Special $168.88

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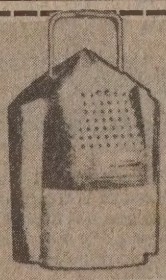
FLOW TROLL LIVE BAIT BUCKET



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$6.88

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Model #2079
Reg. $10.99

$6.99

- Lifetime rustproof guarantee
- 7½" blade
- Famous non-slip finger grip handle
- Includes easy clean sheath & filleting instructions

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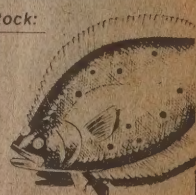
We have in stock:

- LIVE KILLIES
- SPEARING
- SAND EELS
- SMELTS
- SQUID
- CHUM



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